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PARO COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
ROYAL UNIVERSITY OF BHUTAN  
PARO: BHUTAN



Attention:

The ISfTE Executive Board Members;

The ISfTE Members;

The ISfTE 2020 Registrants; and those who have submitted abstracts for ISfTE 2020.

March 26, 2020

### **Bhutan ISfTE 2020 Postponement Announcement**

After having carefully analyzed the situation of the evolving novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), the Organising Committee of the ISfTE 2020 (scheduled to be held at Paro College of Education, Royal University of Bhutan w.e.f June 7-13, 2020) in consultation with the ISfTE Secretary General, has decided to postpone the ISfTE 2020 for the health and wellbeing of everyone. Although Bhutan has just two cases (both American tourists) as of now, Bhutan Government like elsewhere has been taking aggressive measures to prevent the spread of the virus. As a result, Bhutan has closed its borders and completely stopped inflow of visitors from other countries for indefinite period. Furthermore, we do understand that many nations and universities have been imposing travel as well as funding restrictions. Some members have already indicated they must withdraw from the seminar. We sincerely hope that everyone will understand and respect the decision to postpone the seminar for the interest and safety of every one of us involved.

We will arrange for a refund of all the registration fees that we have received at the earliest possible. We will contact you shortly on an individual basis for the refund.

Although we are saddened with the prospect of not hosting ISfTE 2020, we are very happy and excited to announce that we will bring ISfTE 2021 to Bhutan. Weber State has kindly agreed to push back their plans to host ISfTE so that the way is clear for us to proceed with the seminar in 2021. We have the full support of the ISfTE board and the Paro College of Education management to host the seminar in 2021.

We expect for now, like us, your time and energy are being given to coping with the ripple effects of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the situation in your local contexts.

We hope knowing that ISfTE 2021 will be in Bhutan is a source of good news. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Warmly,

(Kezang Sherab)

(Ugyen Choden)

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