



# isfte



BHUTAN 2020

7<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> June, 2020

# 40<sup>th</sup>

## Annual International Seminar



Royal University of Bhutan



International Society for Teacher Education

Paro College of Education  
Royal University of Bhutan



Theme:

Preparing Students for 21st Century Challenges  
through Improved Learning Outcomes

Conveners

Kezang Sherab and Ugyen Choden

Website

[www.pce.edu.bt/isfte2020](http://www.pce.edu.bt/isfte2020)

**Registration and Call for Abstracts**

The organising committee invites you to the Paro College of Education,  
Royal University of Bhutan to participate in the 40th Annual Seminar of the  
International Society for Teacher Education.



## The International Society for Teacher Education (ISfTE)

The International Society for Teacher Education (ISfTE) was formed in 1981 to provide a forum where teacher educators, and those with an interest in teacher training and development, share their work. The purpose of ISfTE is the improvement of teacher education in all settings. This is achieved through the dissemination and critical analysis of research findings, fostering discussion and promotion of innovative practice in teacher education. ISfTE is an international, independent self-governing organisation that is free of external economic or political influence and produces its own Journal (JISTE), a bi-annual newsletter, and provides a forum for direct contact between members across a wide range of institutions and countries. More information is available at: <http://www.isfte.hk>. The Society has met in different countries across six continents for an annual Seminar since 1981. The principal focus of the Seminar is on the papers that are presented by those attending. Seminar participants work in small paper groups during the Seminar to discuss the content of papers and provide collegial feedback. This work is supplemented by invited keynote addresses from prominent educators. A range of cultural and social activities provides an insight into the culture and educational context of the hosting nation and region.

## The 40th Annual Seminar

Kezang Sherab and Ugyen Choden are authorised by the ISfTE Executive Board to convene the 2020 Seminar at the Paro College of Education, Royal University of Bhutan, Paro, Bhutan. The college will be hosting the seminar for the second time.

## Attendance and Participation

Traditionally, participants from approximately 25 countries attend this annual Seminar including teacher educators, researchers, policy makers, teachers, students, administrators and others interested in the development of professional educators throughout the world. Participants range from members who have the experience of attending seminars to persons attending for the first time.



## Seminar Venue

Bhutan is a tiny Himalayan country in South Asia with a population of about 0.8 million and area of 38,394 sq. km. Bhutan shares its borders with China in the North and India in the South. The government system is a constitutional monarchy; the chief of state is the king, and the head of government is the prime minister. The country's most popular development philosophy is the "Gross National Happiness" which was initiated by His Majesty the Fourth King.

The Royal University of Bhutan (RUB) was established in June 2003 bringing together nine tertiary colleges located across the country. Two of the constituent colleges are teacher education colleges, Paro College of Education in the northwest and Samtse College of Education in the southwest.

To provide quality education to the Bhutanese youths the teacher education programmes in Bhutan have been undergoing immense changes over the years. Considerable progress has been made in teacher education in just about forty years. However, there is still a great deal that the Bhutanese teacher education can learn from teacher education programmes world-wide.

The Seminar will be held on the campus of the Paro College of Education (PCE), located in the western Bhutan approximately about 2200 metres above sea level. The College is home to about 1025 pre-service student teachers and some 600 in-service teachers who study by a part-time and distance mode.

## Sub-Theme include:

Professional standards for teachers

Professional development of teachers

Education for sustainable development

Blended learning

Educational leadership

STEM education

Competency based assessment

Aligning curriculum to competencies

Teaching for competencies

Social media and education

Differentiated instruction

Educational policies

Teachers' communication skills and learning outcomes

Access and equity in education (gender equality, inclusive education, early childhood education)

Non cognitive skills (life skills education, value education, citizenship education, happiness education)

## Call for Papers and Submission of Abstracts

Participants are invited to submit an abstract of approximately 200 words (max. 250 words) by January 31, 2020. Please use our online submission facility at:

[www.pce.edu.bt/isfte2020](http://www.pce.edu.bt/isfte2020)

Alternatively, abstracts will be accepted by direct e-mail and as an attachment to the Seminar Organising Committee, PCE.

Email: [isfte2020.pce@rub.edu.bt](mailto:isfte2020.pce@rub.edu.bt)

Confirmation of acceptance of the abstract, and a letter of invitation, will be provided.

Each participant should bring 20 copies of their written paper to the Seminar for distribution and private reading prior to group discussion of the paper. The word limit for the paper should be between 2500-3000 words in length. Electronic (PowerPoint) presentations are discouraged because paper group members will have already read the paper and be familiar with the content — the focus is on discussion of the ideas in the paper and not presentation of content. The paper may be a report on research findings related to teacher education, an outline of work in progress, a statement of an idea or a paper ready to present for refereeing prior to publication. Each paper is allocated approximately one hour for discussion and constructive dialogue and feedback. The paper group format of the seminar actively promotes international collegial dialogue and cross-cultural research.

Date	Tentative Programme
<b>Sunday</b> <b>7<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrival &amp; Registration</li> <li>• Welcome Dinner &amp; Cultural Programme by RAPA</li> </ul>
<b>Monday</b> <b>8<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keynote Address</li> <li>• Paper Group</li> <li>• Lunch</li> <li>• Paper Group</li> <li>• Reading time</li> <li>• Home Host Dinner</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday</b> <b>9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paper Group</li> <li>• Lunch</li> <li>• Cultural tour</li> <li>• Dinner</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday</b> <b>10<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keynote Address</li> <li>• Paper Group</li> <li>• Lunch</li> <li>• Paper Group</li> <li>• Reading time</li> <li>• Dinner &amp; Cultural Programme by college students</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday</b> <b>11<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keynote Address</li> <li>• Paper Group</li> <li>• ISfTE 2021 presentation</li> <li>• Paper Group presentations</li> </ul>
<b>Friday</b> <b>12<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparation for plenary session</li> <li>• ISfTE Annual General Meeting</li> <li>• Farewell Dinner</li> </ul>

## Registration Information

Registration includes all meals and snacks, accommodation, ISfTE membership, cultural tour, local transportation, and all specified events during the seminar.

Registration Fees	Early Bird Rate (on/before February 15, 2020)	Standard Rate (till March 20, 2020)
Developed Countries	US \$1200.00	US \$1300.00
Developing Countries	US \$900.00	US \$1000.00
SAARC Countries	US \$800.00	US \$900.00

Students who wish to participate may contact at [isfte2020.pce@rub.edu.bt](mailto:isfte2020.pce@rub.edu.bt)

Online registration is available at: [www.pce.edu.bt/isfte2020](http://www.pce.edu.bt/isfte2020)

## Transportation and Accommodation

Paro city where the seminar is going to be hosted has air route connections with many neighbouring nations/cities such as the Delhi, Kolkata, Bagdora (India), Bangkok (Thailand), Kathmandu (Nepal), Dhaka (Bangladesh) and Singapore. Flights arrive daily, which are operated by the two airlines- Druk Air ([www.drukair.com.bt](http://www.drukair.com.bt)) and Bhutan Airlines ([www.bhutanairlines.bt](http://www.bhutanairlines.bt)). Flight tickets can be purchased online. Visa for all the delegates will be arranged by the organizing committee.

All accommodations will be arranged in standard hotels in the Paro Valley. While some hotels are within a walking distance to the college where conference will be held, most hotels are within 15 to 20 minutes' drive

Deadline for Abstracts	January 31, 2020
Abstract Acceptances	Within 2 weeks of submission
Early Bird Registration	February 15, 2020
Registrations Close	March 20, 2020

Please direct enquiries to:

Seminar Organising Committee  
 Paro College of Education Royal  
 University of Bhutan

Telephone: +975-8-272 829

Convener: +975-1795 7949

Convener: +975-1756 1739

Fax: +975-8-271917

Email: [isfte2020.pce@rub.edu.bt](mailto:isfte2020.pce@rub.edu.bt)

**Cancellation Policy**

All cancellations must be made in writing to the 2020 Organising Committee. Registration cancellations before 31 March, 2020 will forfeit USD 100 of registration fee to cover administration costs. No refunds will be made after 31 March, 2020, but substitute delegates are acceptable.

**Privacy**

In registering for the ISfTE Seminar relevant details will be incorporated into a delegate list for the benefit of all delegates (name and organisation and e-mail address only), and may be made available to parties directly related to the conference including venue and accommodation providers.

**Disclaimer**

ISfTE Seminar organising committee reserves the right to make changes to the seminar programme if necessary. Information is accurate at time of printing. All fees are in US Dollars and include GST.