



# ***Journal of Educational Policy and Practice (JELPP)***

## **Special edition: Leading innovative learning environments**

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Guest editors: Michele Morrison and Jeremy Kedian

### *Purpose of the special edition*

The development of Innovative Learning Environments (ILEs), variously referred to as Modern Learning Environments (MLEs) and Flexible Learning Environments (FLEs), is an important step in New Zealand's national education journey. Driven by government policy and international trends, there is a requirement for all schools to conform to the new model by 2020.

These changes are demonstrated by the current government's commitment to building only specifically designed schools that support the ILE model. The target date for some form of conversion to this new model is creating urgency in schools, particularly in the primary sector where there is a realization that the change process is substantial and now relatively urgent. The nature, extent and level of student learning in the purpose-built and 'newly changed' ILE schools has reduced many of the concerns held by those leading more traditional schools, but this is not necessarily universal.

The change from a traditional, factory model to an ILE requires educators to address and develop in specific ways a philosophy that will underpin the learning in these new environments. In addition, those leading the change need to address the highly practical changes that must occur. Those who have already developed as an ILE appear to believe that the development of a philosophical underpinning is a crucial starting point. Thereafter they have addressed the more pragmatic changes driven by the new model.

NZEALS Journal Editors are calling for articles for a special edition of the *Journal of Educational Leadership, Policy and Practice* that will address the many issues inherent in a systemic change such as this. The editors are seeking a breadth of focus from experienced and emerging authors in the field of education, educational leaders in schools, and others who wish to contribute to the ongoing dialogue surrounding ILEs. They welcome leaders' stories of introducing and working with ILEs, in addition to more academic papers.

The Guest Co-editors invite expressions of interest, in the form of a 250-word abstract, by Friday 16 December 2016. Initial submission of articles should be received by the editors no later than 27 February 2017. Once refereed, the editors will contact all authors by 31 March 2017 and notify them of the outcome of their submissions. Selected articles that require revisions will be returned to the authors and all revisions must be completed and the article re-submitted no later than 28 April 2017.

Editorial requirements for articles are included in previous editions of the Journal and are available online at the NZEALS website <http://nzeals.org.nz/JELPPsubmissions.htm> Requests for further information should be addressed to:

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