



ACWRN Call for papers

## *Ahi Kā: Building the Fire*

**Dates:** Saturday 10 September and Sunday 11 September, 2016

**Venue:** WG404, Sir Paul Reeves Building, Wellesley Street campus, Mayoral Drive, Auckland University of Technology

### Call for 'sparks'

What is the state of creative writing pedagogy in Aotearoa now? What can we learn from each other as teachers of creative writing? Do our creative writing institutions function as equitable places of learning in terms of diversity and identity? What are the challenges that face our learners in the changing world of the text? What is the future of the discipline? What role do current and recent post-graduate students play in shaping this future?

The second conference of the Aotearoa Creative Writing Research Network aims to bring together creative writing teachers from Aotearoa, the Pacific and beyond to continue discourse around the practise of creative writing pedagogy in our time and place.

Ahi Kā will feature a range of panel discussions and readings, a postgraduate forum, and a keynote (TBA) on the important issues facing creative writing and its teaching.

### Call for Sparks

'Sparks' are brief papers (no more than ten minutes in length) encouraging discussion. By 20 June, submit a 300-word spark abstract related to one of the following subjects:

**New Zealand voices:** How do approach issues of identity and place in New Zealand literatures through creative writing pedagogy? How does creative writing in New Zealand negotiate with the world?

**Contemporary pedagogies:** Which approaches to teaching creative writing are most suited to today's students?

**Research:** How do we teach approaches to research in creative writing? How does our research as writers impact our teaching?

**Māori literature:** What constitutes a Māori creative writing pedagogy? What is the future for global creative writing connections via indigeneity?

**Pasifika literature:** How do we build a Pasifika writing ethos? How do Moana/Pacific centred approaches work in the writing workshop?

**Book Culture:** How does the creative writing academy prepare its students for the world of publishing, disseminating, and selling books?

**Undergraduate study:** What does it mean to study creative writing and/or literature at the undergraduate level today? For what culture, careers, and configurations of citizenship are we preparing our students?

**Postgraduate study:** How do issues around postgraduate study and teaching influence the field?

Postgraduate Forum: In conjunction with interested current or recent postgraduate students, we would also like to organise a postgraduate forum focusing on postgraduate issues in Creative Writing. Please indicate on your spark if you're interested in participating in such a forum

### Key Dates

15 May: Call for 'sparks'

20 June: Spark abstracts due

18 July-: Online Conference registration open; early bird rates apply (online registration will be linked from the ACRWN website)

10/11 September: Ahi Kā: Building the Fire

### Contacts

For general conference queries contact James George ([ames.george@aut.ac.nz](mailto:ames.george@aut.ac.nz))

Send sparks to Thom Conroy ([T.Conroy@massey.ac.nz](mailto:T.Conroy@massey.ac.nz))

*Conference Committee: Thom Conroy, James George, Siobhan Harvey, Bryan Walpert*

### What is ACRWN?

The Aotearoa Creative Writing Research Network (ACWRN) is a cross-university initiative joining creative writing teachers in New Zealand. The organisation opens opportunities for discussion, collaboration, publication, and publicity about issues relating to Creative Writing at tertiary institutions. The ACWRN website (<http://acwrn.ac.nz>) provides Creative Writing resources, events & news, a members directory, and a searchable Australasian database for Creative Writing teachers, supervisors, and examiners.