

ISFIRE 2009 Session Information

Unlike a standard conference format, the ISFIRE symposium will have a Session Discussion time after each Parallel Session Presentations time. Thus a session consists of both presentations and discussion. The audience for one set of three papers (in the presentation time) is then asked to remain in the same room and discuss how the innovations addressed in the three presentations could be implemented in other rural environments. To ensure the smooth running of both the presentations and the discussions Session Chairs have been assigned.

Parallel Session Presentations (90 minutes)

This comprises three 30-minute presentations. Presenters should allow 20 minutes for presentation and 10 minutes for questions. The Session Chair will introduce the speakers, ensure that the speakers keep to time, and restrict questions to those directly related to the presentations. More general questions should be held over until the discussion time after the three presentations.

Session Discussion (60 minutes)

This comprises discussion about how the innovations addressed in the three presentations could be implemented in other rural environments. The following three questions will guide the discussion.

- What innovations have been successful in achieving equity in rural education?
- What has contributed most significantly to the success of these innovations?
- How could these innovations be implemented in other rural locations?

The Session Chair will draw participant attention to the three main discussion questions, facilitate discussion and split the group of participants into smaller discussion groups if necessary. One person will be asked to record key points from the discussion. This record of the key points should be delivered to the Dragon Room at the end of the session. These notes will be shared with participants during the symposium and used to prepare a summary which will be shared publicly, via the ISFIRE 2009 website.