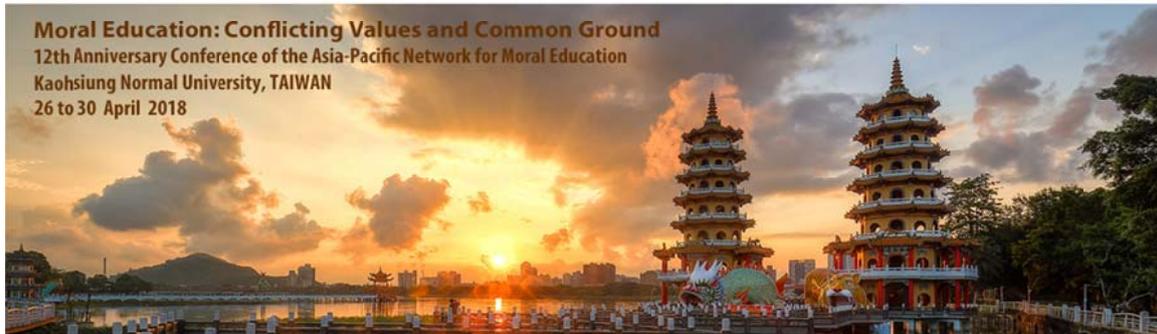


# APNME Conference—Call for Proposals



**Moral Education: Conflicting Values and Common Ground**  
an International Conference for Interdisciplinary and Intercultural Dialogue



## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The 12<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference of the Asia-Pacific Network for Moral Education (APNME)  
Apr. 26-30, 2018, Kaohsiung Normal University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

[www.apnme.org/2018/](http://www.apnme.org/2018/)

### **Moral Education: Conflicting Values and Common Ground**

Several cultural, philosophical and religious traditions, such as those of Confucianism and Buddhism as well as Christianity and Islam, have long co-existed in the Asia-Pacific region. How have these various beliefs and orientations impacted the theory and practice of moral education in the different cultures of this region? What role may the increasingly dominant role of the Internet and social media be going to play in this context? What about the very recent rise of nationalism (inward-turning, isolationism) on the part of some countries and communities?

Based upon the aims of the APNME, this conference welcomes participants whose papers or presentations will be concerned with the following issues and questions:

1. Cultural diversity and traditional ethical issues. The latter are concerned with definitions not just of “goodness” but also of “happiness” and “wellbeing” from the viewpoints of various cultural and religious systems (at individual as well as societal levels). How have such concepts influenced the cultivation of morality in these different systems? How can we seek a common ground that may facilitate cross-cultural understanding and be used to improve our practice of moral education?
2. The nature of “ethical dilemmas” in both western and Asia-Pacific cultures, and the degree to which the nature of these dilemmas may differ. This raises the question of the relevance of western philosophical and psychological theories and approaches to the Asia-Pacific context. Thus we still need to try to identify the core values that are present in different moral and cultural contexts.
3. To what extent are moral values a product of religion and/or culture? What about the natural world? May

not animals have demonstrated “moral” behavior long before there were human beings? Perhaps by observing them we can gain a deeper insight into the meaning of moral behavior?

4. How can we, in the context of moral education, understand the conflicting moral and cultural values of diverse cultural systems? These values may be grounded in such key terms as the Confucian “*Ren*,” Buddhist “Buddhahood” and the Daoist “*Dao*,” and more generally in the nature of the Supreme Being that is fundamental to Christianity and Islam, and in the plural natures of the gods and goddesses of Hinduism. What may be the role of moral education in this wider context?
5. What may be the fundamental role of moral education in the context of ethnic minorities and also with regard to the non-human members of our natural environment—our plants and animals? How can the fundamentally important moral component be still further emphasized in ecological education?
6. To what extent are moral education and civic education compatible? Is it possible that acting morally may sometimes mean disobeying the civic norms of a given nation or community?
7. What should be the role of moral education in a highly computerized, digitalized era, given that technological devices are not alive and would seem to be inherently devoid of moral values? How can moral education be most effectively introduced and practiced in a world where information technology is rapidly expanding? Can modern technology actually be used to support or reinforce moral education?

Whilst priority will be given to presentations addressing these topics, any topics concerned with moral and civic education will be welcomed. We sincerely welcome to our conference all those who care about exploring and enhancing the role of moral education, through theory and practice, in the Asia-Pacific region and in the world.

**We welcome submissions from scholars, students and practitioners across the many disciplines that contribute to the study and practice of moral education**, including *education, psychology, philosophy, historical and cultural studies, social and anthropological studies, neurobiological and neuro-ethical studies, ecological and religious studies, civic and legal studies*. Plenary sessions and invited symposia will explicitly address the conference theme. We encourage individuals to submit proposals that address this theme; however, we also welcome any proposals that address the study and practice of moral and values education, civic engagement, and education more generally.

To **submit a proposal** and to learn more about the conference, including invited speakers, go to <http://apnme.org/2018/proposal-submission/>

**The Deadline for submitting proposals is September 15, 2017.**

For further information please contact the conference managers: [conference@apnme.org](mailto:conference@apnme.org)