# **!! NOTICE OF CANCELLATION !!**



June 4-7, 2020
(Pre-conferences on June 4)
University of British Columbia
Website: edst.educ.ubc.ca/AEGT2020

# Conference cancelled due to spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus disease)

# Posted Tuesday, March 17, 2020

During the past week, a growing number of travel restrictions, health advisories/directives, and cancellations of "mass gatherings" have been announced around the world. "Social distancing"—the opposite of what AEGT2020 is about—is being adopted rapidly as the "new normal." Faculty, staff and students at universities around the world are being asked to self-isolate and use various technologies to continue their academic work from home.

The health and well-being of colleagues, students, staff and the general public is our highest priority. We now believe that holding AEGT2020—and related pre-conferences—as originally planned would be inconsistent with this priority and with fulfilling our role in slowing the spread of the virus. *Given these circumstances, we are announcing the cancellation of AEGT2020 in Vancouver.* We briefly considered the possibility of offering some form of virtual participation, but quickly realized that would not be feasible given the demands on UBC's IT staff, the potential costs, and other complications.

CASAE and UBC will be exploring with the various partnering organizations the possibility of rescheduling the conference for 2021.

#### **Refunds of Conference Registration Fees**

Due to the unprecedented circumstances that have led to cancelling the conference, we are committed to providing full refunds for all those who registered prior to the suspension of registration on March 13. All refund requests will be processed beginning in April. Although there are a few process details to sort out, we ask that all registrants request a refund by sending an email message to <a href="mailto:shermila.salgadoe@ubc.ca">shermila.salgadoe@ubc.ca</a> that contains the following information:

- Your first name as used during registration
- Your last name [surname] as used during registration

- The name on the credit card used for payment (if different from above)
- A statement that you are requesting a refund of the registration fee for AEGT2020
- The amount you paid
- The transaction ID number from your receipt

If you included your CASAE 2020-21 membership fee in your registration, please indicate clearly in your message whether you also wish to have your membership fee refunded or transferred to CASAE to activate or renew your membership.

Please be patient as all university staff are being heavily impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and various requirements to self-isolate.

### **Cancelling Campus Accommodation Reservations**

Those who have reserved accommodations on campus (Gage or Ponderosa) must cancel these as soon as possible. We cannot cancel them for you. To cancel your reservation, send an email to <a href="mailto:reservations@housing.ubc.ca">reservations@housing.ubc.ca</a> or contact UBC Conferences and Accommodation by phone at +1 604-822-1000.

## **Submissions to the Conference** *Proceedings*

In consultation with the *Proceedings* editor, Dr. John Egan, we are offering the option to all those whose presentations were accepted for the conference to submit their paper or other summary for a *Proceedings*. Although it may seem a bit odd to have a *Proceedings* without a conference, we were asked to consider this option to provide an outlet for the work of those who may wish to have a "publication credit" of their work during 2020. If you wish to exercise this option, here are the revised timelines:

- April 15, 2020—Revised/extended deadline for receiving materials for the *Proceedings*. In order to have your submission included in the *Proceedings*, the Editor must receive your paper—or summary of your proposed research roundtable, panel, poster or symposium—no later than 11:59pm Pacific Time on April 15. Please carefully follow the formatting and style requirements provided to you earlier by the *Proceedings* editor. These instructions and templates can also be found under the "*Proceedings*" tab on the conference website. Send your submission to John at jega776@aucklanduni.ac.nz.
- **June 30, 2020**—Digital *Proceedings* to be available on an open-source basis through CASAE and the AEGT2020 website. Authors fully retain intellectual property rights (copyright) for their submissions.

If you have already made your submission for the *Proceedings,* you can withdraw it if you wish by contacting John directly at the above email. If he does not hear from you, he will assume that you wish to have your work included in the *Proceedings.* 

We want to thank everyone involved during the several years that AEGT2020 has been planned including organizational representatives, those who made submissions, reviewed those submissions, organized pre-conferences and were looking forward to attending. If we are able to re-schedule the conference next year, we will certainly use all possible communication channels to spread the word and invite the world once again to UBC and Vancouver.