



Dear JUSTEC Friends,

October 20th, 2020

Greetings,

Given the serious and ongoing impact of COVID-19 internationally, the JUSTEC Governing Board has agreed to hold a virtual JUSTEC conference in 2021. We do not see Japan or the US being fully free from the coronavirus outbreak in the next 8 months. International travel restrictions still exist in Japan and the US. We believe that a virtual meeting is the most prudent option at this time.

We also see our gathering next spring as an opportunity to bring together teacher educators across the Pacific Ocean to assess the impact of COVID19 pandemic on teacher education. In this respect, we are shaping a theme as follows:

“Teacher Education in a Pandemic: International Perspectives from Japan and the US”

We plan for an event across 3 days, which includes a combination of synchronous interaction and asynchronous presentations. One of the biggest challenges we face in a virtual conference is our disparate time zones – a 16+ hour difference between Japan and the US – which means our synchronous time will be limited.

See below for a tentative JUSTEC Schedule. We hope you can reserve these times to join us next Spring.

#### **The 31st JUSTEC Schedule**

- U.S. Time: May 27, 28, 29, 2021  
synchronous meeting time 17:00 - 19:00 pm (PDT) /20:00 - 22:00 pm (EDT)
- Japan Time: May 28, 29, 30, 2021 - synchronous meeting time 9:00 - 11:00 am

Please look for a Call for Papers to be distributed later this fall. Because of the limited synchronous time, we expect to have only a few live presentations; most presentations will need to be prepared in an asynchronous format (e.g. prepared video, power-point, or power-point with video). All presentation video will be posted online due to international time difference.

Thank you very much for your understanding. We hope you will reserve the dates for JUSTEC 2021 and that we will be able to join together in the Spring.

Best wishes,  
JUSTEC Governing Board Members