

Department of Educational Psychology, Counseling and Learning Needs &
Centre for Citizenship Education

Lunch Seminar

Cross-Cultural Activist Practitioner Inquiry in the Multicultural Landscape

Prof. HE Ming Fang

Date: 20th Nov., 2007

Time: 12:30 – 2:00 pm

Venue: Room

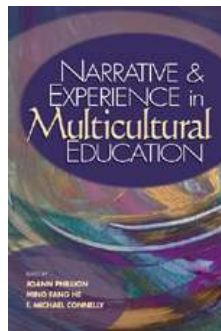
Tai Po Campus, HKIEd

In this seminar, Professor HE Ming Fang explores the potentials and challenges of cross-cultural activist practitioner inquiry in the multicultural and multilingual world. Professor HE begins with a sketch of the increasingly diversified world landscape and then discusses the convergence of diversity and practitioner inquiry by tracing the historical origins of cross-cultural practitioner inquiry in the social sciences and its evolving development in education. Professor HE calls for a form of practitioner inquiry with explicit agendas that focus on equity, equality, and social justice, with specific methodologies that foster a participatory process of the inquiries, and with focal outcomes that enact social and educational change. An array of research is presented to demonstrate specific qualities of this form of inquiry. Various forms of practitioner inquiry are briefly mentioned (e.g., narrative, autobiography, memoir, novel, oral history, documentary film, painting, and poetry). Contributions, potentials, and challenges of cross-cultural activist practitioner inquiry are explored. This seminar informs teachers, educators, particularly teaching oriented university researchers, to search ways to ground research and scholarly activities in teaching and supervision in university classrooms, schools, and communities in Hong Kong. Professor HE calls for practitioners and educational researchers to work together with other researchers, teachers, educators, administrators, policymakers, students, parents, and community members, to take to heart the concerns of underrepresented, disfranchised, and invisible groups and individuals, and to invent spaces where all members of the society develop human capacities more fully in Hong Kong and in an increasingly changing and diversifying world.



HE Ming Fang is currently a Visiting Scholar and Research Consultant (August 15-December 31, 2007) at the Department of Educational Psychology, Counseling and Learning Needs, Hong Kong Institute of Education. Dr. HE taught English as a Foreign Language at Wuhan University in P. R. China and English as a Second Language to

immigrant adults and children for the Toronto District School Board in Canada. Dr. HE is Associate Professor of Curriculum Studies at Georgia Southern University. She advises doctoral students, directs doctoral dissertations, and teaches graduate courses in curriculum studies, multicultural education, and qualitative research methods. Her preservice teacher education courses are in foundations of education. Most of her recent published work is on cross-cultural narrative inquiry of language, culture, identity in multicultural contexts, cross-cultural teacher education, and curriculum studies which includes: *A River Forever Flowing: Cross-Cultural Lives and Identities in the Multicultural Landscape* (2003); *Narrative and Experience in Multicultural Education* (2005)(Eds.); *Handbook of Curriculum and Instruction* (2007)(Eds.); *Research for Social Justice: Personal~Passionate~Participatory Inquiry* (2008)(a book series). She was an Editor of *Curriculum Inquiry* (2003-2005) and is an Associate Editor of *Multicultural Perspectives*. She is engaged in three book projects: one features social justice oriented work; one features her study on language, culture, and identity development of Chinese immigrant children in Southern U. S. schools; and the other features her teaching in-between the East and West. Her current research is expanded to multicultural education with a particular focus on the ethnic minority and immigrant education in the United States, Canada, Hong Kong, and Mainland China.



Inquiries and R.S.V.P.: