



CREEW'S News

Centre for Research in Education, Equity and Work

(a research concentration within HRISS)

August - September 2007

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CREEW Seminar Program

Thanks to all who attended the following seminars:

- 10th August
Judith Gill: *Can deliberative polling save Habermas? Pedagogical questions relating to religion, rationality, republicanism and reconciliation*
- August 31
Dawn Nolan: *Church spires and minarets*
Faith Thorley: *The language of arts-based research*

Next Seminar October 12, 2.30 – 4pm in G1-17 at Mawson Lakes:

- Glenna Lear: *Learning in Later Life*
- Stephen Hodge: *CBT and Transformative Learning*

CREEW Hothouse Seminars

- Tom Stehlik gave a presentation on the teaching-research nexus in the Division of EASS on Friday 7 September, following the Researcher Management meeting. This presentation explored

UniSA's new Teaching and Learning Framework and its focus on the nexus between teaching and research as part of an increased interest in the idea of experiential and inquiry-based learning.

Publications

- Guthrie, H., Harris, R., Simons, M. & Karmel, T. (submitted). Teaching for technical and vocational education and training (TVET). In L. J. Saha & A. G. Dworkin (Eds.) *The New International Handbook of Teachers and Teaching*, Springer.
- Keirl, S. (2007). Designing better worlds? Values for vision through primary Design and Technology Education. In Benson, C., Lawson, S., Lunt, J. & Till, W. (Eds), *Ten Years On: Proceedings of the Sixth International Primary Design and Technology Conference*, Centre for Research in Primary Technology, University of Central England, Birmingham, UK.
- Keirl, S. & MacGregor, D. (2007). Ten Years of Primary Design and Technology Teacher Education in South Australia: more head, less hands, always with heart. In Benson, C., Lawson, S., Lunt, J. & Till, W. (Eds), *Ten Years On: Proceedings of the Sixth International Primary Design and Technology Conference*, Centre for Research in Primary Technology, University of Central England, Birmingham, UK.
- Keirl, S. (2007). Discomforting the orthodox: four debates used to raise curriculum awareness and promote critical thinking in Design and Technology teacher education. In Norman, E.W.L. & Spendlove, D., (Eds.), *Linking Learning: Proceedings of the Design and Technology Association International Research Conference 2007*, Design and Technology Association, Wellesbourne, UK.
- Zipin, Lew & Reid, Alan (forthcoming 2008) A justice-oriented citizenship education: Making community curricular. In *Handbook of Civics Education*. Sage.
- Keirl, S. (in press). The politics of technology curriculum. In (Ed.) Barlex, D., *Design and Technology – For the Next Generation: A collection of provocative pieces, written by experts in their field, to stimulate reflection and curriculum innovation*, Nuffield Foundation, UK.
- In press ... Steve Keirl has an invited chapter in a text targeting beginning Design & Technology teachers. The title of the volume is appropriate to CREEW's meetings: *Design and Technology: For the Next Generation*. According to the subtitle, the volume is 'a collection of provocative pieces, written by experts in their field, to stimulate reflection and curriculum innovation'. Steve's chapter is called *The politics of technology curriculum*.
- Roger Harris reports that the July issue of the *Australian Journal of Adult Learning*, 47(2) is now published, and the November issue is underway.

Conference Presentations

- In May, Steve Keirl was the guest of the TIES (Technology, Innovation, Enterprise and Sustainability) conference in Perth, Western Australia. Attending were teachers from primary, business, design and technology, computing and home economics. Steve contributed the following:
 - A keynote address entitled *When the boat comes in: sailing with Technology Education through the turbulent, the turbid ... and the tranquil?*
 - A follow-up forum: *Taking the boat further...*
 - Support to education groups participating in an ASISTM professional development project.
- During June and July Steve travelled to Britain and attended three international conferences and an international seminar on Design and Technology Education Research. At the conferences he presented four papers, one co-authored with Denise MacGregor. He enjoyed stimulating collegial company for fourteen full and exhausting days. It did not rain on two of the days of the three week trip.

The undoubted highlight for Steve was the two-day International Seminar in Glasgow which 'paired' seven world-leading philosophers of Technology (per se) with seven invited Design and Technology Educators. The philosophers were Don Ihde, Andrew Feenberg, Joseph Pitt, Leonard Waks, Michael Peters, Douglas Kellner and Marc de Vries. Steve was the invited interlocutor' with Andrew Feenberg and also chaired a two-hour focus group on adapting Andrew's thinking and work to D&T education. Steve is to author an invited book chapter based on the outcomes of the interactions.

At the subsequent PATT-18 conference in Glasgow, Steve delivered his paper *Critiquing in a democratics of Design and Technology Education*. At the International Primary D&T conference in Birmingham Steve presented Denise's and his *Ten Years of Primary Design and Technology Teacher Education in South Australia: more head, less hands, always with heart* and his own *Designing better worlds? Values for vision through primary Design and Technology Education*.

At the International conference of the Design and Technology Association Steve presented a paper based on debate-based pedagogy he has developed for D&T while at UniSA: *Discomforting the orthodox: four debates used to raise curriculum awareness and promote critical thinking in Design and Technology teacher education*.

- Harris, R. & Simons, M. (2007). Interrogating the role of adult and community education providers. Refereed paper presented at the *SCUTREA Annual Conference*, Queen's University, Belfast, Northern Ireland, 3-5 July.
- Sue Gelade and Julian Moore presented recently at the 4th *Qualitative Research Convention: Quality in Qualitative Research* conference held at the Hilton Hotel in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. Being surrounded by about 300 people, all with an interest in qualitative research, was an inspiring event for someone like Sue, who doesn't do numbers. However, it would appear that qualitative research is a relatively new phenomenon in Malaysia;

something she hadn't thought about until listening to the opening keynote, where the speaker emphasised the need for a scientific approach when undertaking qualitative data gathering and reporting. Luckily this emphasis helped Sue and Julian prepare for the questions that their paper elicited – which were all about the quantitative aspects of setting up their participant base (!). The paper *Responsive Respondents: Making a case for participant self selection within the methodological process* is due to be presented at a CREEW seminar on 16 November.

- Judy Gill and Alan Reid presented a paper entitled *Schooling and the State: Issues of control and contestation around civics education* at the annual conference of the European Educational Research Association held in Ghent, Belgium on 19 September, 2007.
- Larry Spry was a guest speaker at the Lutheran schools professional development day on September 7th. All the major Lutheran colleges in SA had a closed day and met at Unity College, Murray Bridge, to be inserviced in various educational aspects. The session was successful in updating the faculties on teacher education at UniSA and in promoting our students in Design and Technology. Larry's particular focus was on:
 - outlining the UniSA programs in Design and Technology education (the LBDT, LBPM and LBPG programs)
 - unpacking the LBDT program and exploring the components and TAFE role in the education of future Design and Technology teachers;
 - addressing the current issues around Design and Technology education in schools, especially the focus on Design, OHSW issues, changing pedagogy, integration with other curriculum areas;
 - how can the Lutheran Colleges link with Uni SA in the future through RP and PAR programs?
- Deb Tranter has had two proposals accepted for the biennial Equity Practitioners in Higher Education conference to be held in Melbourne in November. The papers will be entitled:

Bonus points are the only reason I'm at UniSA: equity outreach and higher education success (with David Saville and Lachlan Murdoch).

Unequal schooling: how the school curriculum keeps students from low socioeconomic backgrounds out of university (based on Deb's doctoral research).

Projects

National VET Research Consortium: Update

- A summary of the key messages from the Consortium's work over the past 2.5 years has been published:

Harris, R., Clayton, B. & Chappell, C. (2007) *Supporting vocational education and training providers in building capability for the future*, Adelaide, National Centre for Vocational Education Research.
- The round of Forums in each State has now been completed, where the findings of the Consortium were disseminated back to the field. Seven one-day Forums were held in Melbourne, Hobart,

Brisbane, Sydney, Adelaide, Perth and Albury. In each Forum, there were three presentations, given by different members of the Consortium. The pattern was that one of the Directors gave the Overview of the key messages from all of the Consortium's research activities, and then two of the Principal Researchers gave presentations in more detail on the particular research activity of their research team. Valuable information was also gathered from two activities where Forum participants discussed at their tables questions such as:

- How well do the messages reflect key issues for your organisation?
- Are there aspects of RTO capability that you would like to know more about?
- Are there important aspects of RTO capability that you think have not been covered?
- What three things would you take back to your organisation from what you have heard today, and why?
- Develop a list of practical solutions (from the experience around your table) which may be beneficial for providers.

Feedback on these Forums has been positive, and NCVER is currently collating the information.

More information can be found on the consortium's website at (CTRL + Click) www.consortiumresearchprogram.net.au

Keynote Addresses and Invitations

- Alan Reid presented an invited speech on national curriculum at the annual dinner of the Australian College of Education (SA Chapter) held at Aquinas College, North Adelaide, 10 August.
- Alan Reid presented an invited keynote address on *The dumbing down of the education debate* at the annual conference of the South Australian English Teachers Association, Education Development Centre, Hindmarsh, 17 August.
- Alan Reid was a member of the panel reviewing the Bachelor of Teaching (and B. Tch. Hons) program at the University of Tasmania, 26-30 August.
- On 30 August, Professor Alan Reid (HRISS) presented an invited public lecture in Canberra titled *Reclaiming the public in public education*, as the final lecture in the ACT showcase series of education public lectures organised by the ACT Department of Education and Training.
- Dr Tom Stehlik was an invited guest at the recent launch of the *Better Futures* film clips and *Supporting Young People's Success: Forging the Links* publication, produced by the Social Inclusion Unit and supported by DECS. The publication and accompanying filmclips are the publicly available results of the evaluation of the School Retention Action Plan that Dr Stehlik contributed to as Social Inclusion Research Fellow 2005 - 2006.
- Professor Roger Harris was invited to present a keynote address to the 14th Annual Conference of the European VET and Culture Network held at the University of Konstanz on 30 August to 1 September. His address was entitled *Crossing cultural boundaries: VET teachers working within private industry*, in

which he re-visited the data from one of his recently completed research reports and asked the question: what happens when we look at the data through different theoretical lenses? The three conceptual frameworks he focused on were 'learning network theory', 'communities of practice' and 'creating a third space'.

Teaching and Learning

- On September 25 the Teaching and Learning and Research Degree Committees in the Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences came together for the first time in a combined meeting to discuss the nexus between teaching and research in the university. Dr Tom Stehlik gave a presentation on the project he is conducting into the Teaching Research Nexus in the Division and facilitated a discussion on ways in which the nexus can be implemented and enhanced at institutional, school and curriculum levels. A list of Action Items arising from the meeting includes developing a Divisional research expertise database and working on school plans to embed the Teaching Research Nexus across undergraduate programs.

Postgraduate News

- Congratulations to Cath Hall who has successfully completed her Doctor of Education, receiving a 1 and a 2 from her examiners.
- Karen Plane has won one of the few Completion Scholarships for the next 6 months to work fulltime on completing her PhD with Roger Harris.
- Jenni Carter gave two presentations at the recent Education, Arts and Social Sciences Postgraduate Forum:

Reconfiguring VET: The Abolition of ANTA

Examining the abolition of the Australian National Training Authority as an example of the approach to the governance of education under the Howard Government.

Postit Notes and Big Books

One researcher's approach to concepts, data, generative writing and analytical frameworks.

- Postgraduate students of CREEW and postgraduate students interested in becoming a member can contact CREEW's postgraduate student representative, Ann Lawless.

CREEW Member News

Highlights and Achievements

- Dr Faye McCallum, School of Education, was nominated by the Australian Council of Deans as the external tertiary representative to be a part of a panel with the Northern Territory Teachers' Registration Board to accredit the Charles Darwin University new Bachelor of Teaching and Learning programs in Darwin from 6 -10 August.
- Dr Jan Edwards is currently in Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia working as Gender and Inclusion Adviser for Pendidikan Guru Madrasah Ibtidiah (Teacher Education for Madrasah). PGMI is funded by AusAID through the Learning Assistance Program for

Islamic Schools (LAPIS). PGMI was launched on 15 August 2007 by the Australian Ambassador, Mr Bill Farmer. PGMI will operate until December 2009.

New member

- Welcome to Anna Sullivan, who has been recently made an adjunct at UniSA. In 2002, Anna completed her PhD at Edith Cowan University entitled *Student empowerment in a primary school classroom: A descriptive study*, and until recently was a lecturer in Teaching and Learning at Curtin University of Technology. Her research interests include classroom management, social motivation, qualitative research, student perceptions, teachers and teaching. She is currently working with colleagues on research grant applications that focus on beginning teachers. One project will investigate beginning teacher resilience and retention. The other project will examine the strategies used by graduate teachers to establish positive classroom learning environments at the beginning of the academic school year. She is also working with the MBED JP/P honours students and supervising Lorraine Overton. Lorraine's research is examining the nature of non-compliance in a democratic classroom.

Grant Application News

- Need assistance with ARC grant applications? For information on training and workshops visit the following link [How to win an Australian Research Council Linkage-Project Grant](#)

Awards

- David Badenoch was recently selected as a recipient of the 2007 Carrick Australian Awards for University Teaching Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning. David was awarded for *sustained innovative and scholarly approach to reflective teaching and student-centred learning facilitating high levels of student satisfaction and advancement of graduate qualities*.
- Congratulations to Glenna Lear, a CREEW PhD candidate, who has been awarded the Ruth Gibson Memorial Award of \$2000 which will be presented at the monthly meeting of the SA National Council of Women Meeting on Oct 10 2007. The award commemorates the life and work of Gladys Ruth Gibson (1901-1972), an outstanding educator and community worker who promoted the interests of women locally, and throughout the world.

Other News

A New Arrival

- We recently had some great news from our Research Assistant, Katie Maher. Her daughter, Freija, was born on Wednesday 8th August and both are doing well. Congratulations to Katie and her partner Haoran.

Katie will be returning to CREEW on 3rd December 2007.



Freija

Visiting Scholars

- Dr. Salma Ismail from the University of Cape Town concluded a two week visit from Sept 10 to 24th in which she met staff, gave a CREEW seminar at the Hawke Research Centre at Magill, and then at Mawson Lakes and met with a number of post graduate students at Mawson Lakes. She has pursued research over more than a decade into development education among African women living in fringe camps and negotiating to build houses on their land. She is collaborating with Peter Willis on the multiple outcomes that can come from development education.



Salma

- Liz Burge, professor in adult education at the University of New Brunswick in Atlantic Canada, is here until December 8. She has already been meeting various students and colleagues, and learning how to stop being a workaholic. Peter Willis keeps advising on interesting books to read, while Val Pudney offers astute observations on South Australia. Other insights are most welcome!

One of Liz's doctoral students is completing a phenomenological study of how new graduate nurses adjust from the safe harbour of university courses to the tempests of learning in the workplace. Go to www.unbf.ca/education/faculty/burge.html to find out more about Liz.



Liz

Future CREEW's News

CREEW's News is your newsletter, so please keep us informed of all your activities and help maintain the democratic, collaborative and inclusive culture of CREEW. Please send all contributions to Miriam.McLean@unisa.edu.au