

Faculty of Education

Research Bulletin



Comment

The following article appeared in the Sydney Morning Herald last week. In the context of the recent education statement from Education Minister Julia Gillard the facts are a stark reminder of how much effort needs to be directed into publicly funded education.

Cause for reflection? So, too, is our role as teacher educators and educational researchers. Assuming we are preparing graduates for similar contexts what should we be doing to ensure sustainable futures in our cities and towns for all our young people? A fragmented society with marginalised social and ethnic under classes does not sit well with our ideals of a socially just community. Or is this 'just dreaming'?

Comments welcome

Keep Kids in State Schools

March 10, 2008 - 1:50PM
Advertisement

The NSW government needs to come up with a plan to stem the tide of students leaving the public school system, the opposition says.

A report in Fairfax newspapers says public schools in NSW are suffering "white flight" as Anglo-European students avoid racially diverse public schools in favour of independent ones. The public schools were

being shunned because they were predominantly attended by Lebanese, Muslim, Asian or Aboriginal students, Fairfax said.

Opposition education spokesman Andrew Stoner said the crisis was not new. **Up to 125 students were now leaving the government school system each week**, and enrolments had been declining for 12 years, Mr Stoner said. "Public education is not just essential to NSW future economic growth, it is the cornerstone of the egalitarianism that underpins the Australian way of life," he said. "The state government needs to come up with an urgent plan to end the 'white flight' and turn around the two-tiered education system in NSW. "This plan needs to provide public local schools the resources and autonomy to compete with independent schools."

What's happening?

Important information regarding research related dates for 2008 is available from the following link.

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/education/downloads/research/FRGS-calendar-2008.pdf>

Events for March and April

▪ **Publications data entry – URGENT**

The closing date for the publications is fast approaching. All data entry must be completed by **Friday 28th March**.

Staff who have not submitted their information as yet, would you please forward your documentation as soon as possible to:

Ruth Farr

Faculty of Education, Bundoora

Chris Jubber

Faculty of Education, Bendigo

Louise Gallagher

Centre for Excellence in Outdoor and Environmental Education

▪ Research Development Seminar Series

This monthly series of seminars will be offered again this year. The seminars will be led by our professors who will report on their current research projects and lead open forum discussions.

The first seminar for the year will be conducted by

**Professor Margaret Robertson
&**

Dr Mary Burston

'Net babes' – next generational web 2.0 users.

Bendigo Campus: 8 April 2008, 4.00pm
Education Staff Room

Bundoora Campus: 18 April 2008, 10.30am
Education Boardroom 318

(video-linked to regional campuses)

Details of future seminars will be advised in the next edition of this bulletin.

▪ Research Codes of Behaviour Seminar

Arrangements are currently underway for seminars to be conducted for staff and postgraduate students at the Bendigo and Bundoora campuses. The seminar will be video-linked to the regional campuses. Keep watch for further details.

Looking ahead

Research Mini Retreat

To coincide with the visit of visiting scholar Professor LEE Chi-kin, John Director, Centre for University and School Partnership and Dean of Education. University of China, Hong Kong

Professor Lee has published widely in the fields of environmental education and teacher training including differences between Asian and Western learners. He has collaborated extensively with colleagues in the UK, China, Japan and Australia (including Noel Gough and Margaret Robertson). Professor Lee will make two major presentations during his week long visit, June 23rd – 27th inclusive.

Seminars details:

Bendigo – Monday, June 23rd 'Sustainability issues and environmental education'

Bundoora – Wednesday, June 25th "Teaching, learning and school development: Asian perspective" (video-linked to all regional campuses)

National Research Developments

Information on important research developments in the national sector is available as follows:

Innovation Review and Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA)

A summary of the speech presented by Minister Kim Carr, Minister for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research to Universities Australia to Universities Australia

<http://minister.industry.gov.au/SenatortheHonKimCarr/Pages/UNIVERSITIESAUSTRALIAPLENARYMEETING.aspx>

Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA)

ERA is the replacement for the RQF. Few details are available as yet, however a summary from the CEO of the ARC, Professor Margaret Sheil

<https://www.latrobe.edu.au/rgso/rqf/APAConferencefinal.ppt>

Our staff at work

Congratulations Ray Lewis!

Ray's new book is available from ACER Press. See: <http://shop.acer.edu.au/acer-shop/product/A4020BK>



"This book describes a system of successful classroom behaviour management techniques developed by the author over more than 25 years of teaching practice. It outlines the difficulties confronting teachers trying to manage students' misbehaviour in schools and describes four types of student who can be helped to behave responsibly.

In *The Developmental Management Approach* Ramon Lewis explains in detail how students' behaviour can be categorised and how techniques can be introduced to deal with each category, however challenging it might be. The book goes on to provide a framework for a long term commitment by teachers to productive interactions with students."

Regards

Research Director