

RESEARCH NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 5

MARCH 2008

MARCH EVENTS

Public Lecture

5 - 6.30 pm, Mondays
15 Norham Gardens, Seminar G & H

Monday, 3 March 2008

“Development of the Social Brain during Adolescence”

Speaker: Professor Sarah-Jayne Blakemore, Institute of Cognitive Neuro-Science, University College London

Convenor: Dr Victoria Murphy

Mathematics Education Seminars

Convenor: Dr Anne Watson

Wednesday, 12 March 2008

4.30 - 6pm, Seminar Room D
“Similar differences and different similarities across four topic focused studies of *mathematics for teaching* (mft) in secondary classrooms in South Africa.”

Speaker: Professor Jill Adler, University of Witwatersrand and Kings College London

Wednesday, 19 March 2008

5 - 6.30pm, Seminar Room G
“Telling Mathematical Tales” [A Seminar in the Midlands Mathematical Series]
Speaker: Professor Bill Barton, University of Auckland

e-learning Seminar

Convenor: Dr Chris Davies

Tuesday, 11 March 2008

5 - 6.30pm, Seminar G & H
“Innovations in e-Learning”
Speaker: Dr Keri Facer, Futurelab

Higher Education and Professional Learning Seminar

Convenor: Dr Hubert Ertl

Tuesday, 4 March 2008

1.30 - 4pm, Seminar Room D
“Knowing and Doing the Subject: Undergraduate Learning in Two Contrasting Disciplines”
Speaker: Professor Dai Hounsell, University of Edinburgh

Families, Early Learning and Literacy (FELL) Seminar Programme

Convenor: Professor Kathy Sylva

Wednesday, 5 March 2008

5 - 6.30pm, Seminar Rooms K and L (30 Norham Gardens, ground floor)
“National Evaluation of the Early Learning Partnership: Methodological Challenges and Models of Parental Involvement:
Speaker: Dr Maria Evangelou, University of Oxford

Quant SIG Meeting

Every Monday we meet to learn about and discuss advanced quantitative methods, and to see novel applications of these methods. Please contact Alison O’Mara to be included in the mailing list (alison.omara@education.ox.ac.uk).

Monday, 3 March 2008

12.45pm, Seminar Room J
“National Student Survey data, with a practical component applying multilevel analysis with MLwiN”

Speakers: Jackie Cheng and Professor Herb Marsh, University of Oxford

Teaching & Teacher Education Seminar

Convenor: Dr Jane McNicholl

Wednesday, 5 March 2008

12.30 - 1.45 pm, Seminar Room G
“Why are UK researchers not interested in interest, compared with the interest shown in interest by workers in Germany, Canada, USA and Australia?”
Speaker: Dr Roger Trend, University of Oxford

OSAT Reading Group

5 - 6.00pm, Seminar Room E

Tuesday, 4th March 2008

‘Cognitive Science and Situated Cognition: Paradigm Wars or Two Sides of the Same Coin?’

The two papers are:

—*Perspective on Thinking*, James G. Greeno
—*The Situativity of Knowing, Learning and Research*, James G. Greeno and the Middle School Mathematics Through Applications Project Group, at the Institute for Research on Learning and Stanford University

For a copy of the reading material, please contact the research office by email at research.secretary@gmail.com.

Comparative and International Learning Seminar

Tuesdays, 5 - 6.30pm, St Antony’s College, Dahrendorf Room
Convenors: Dr David Johnson, Professor David Phillips and Professor Robert Service

Tuesday, 4 March 2008

“Concepts of Education in Russia”
Speaker: Professor James Muckle, University of Nottingham

RESEARCH NEWS

Enhancing Students' Proof Competencies in Secondary Mathematics Classrooms

Dr. Andreas Stylianides has been awarded a two year grant from the ESRC to conduct a design experiment in two high attaining Year 10 mathematics classrooms in a local school in Oxfordshire. The design experiment has a twofold goal: (1) to help secondary mathematics teachers create in their classrooms innovative learning environments intended to foster the development of students' proof competencies, and (2) to contribute to theory by explaining the extent to and ways in which these environments support the development of students' proof competencies and mathematical proficiency more broadly.

Degrees of Success - 17/18 March 2008

With the first vocationally-orientated Level3 Diplomas to be introduced this autumn, the results of this two-year ESRC-funded examination of transitions between vocational and higher education, are bound to attract wide attention. Working papers have already highlighted the role that the perceptions of students with vocational qualifications play in defining the higher education opportunities that are open to them.

As Degrees of Success reaches its final stages, its preliminary findings will be discussed at a seminar in Norham Gardens. This event will bring together senior academics and practitioners to consider the implications of these outcomes for individuals and the education system.

Members of the Department are welcome to join the debate at a drinks reception in the Common Room between 17:00-18:00 on Monday 17 March.

For more information, contact one of the team members: Geoff Hayward, Hubert Ertl, Harriet Dunbar-Goddet, Michael Hoelscher via: degrees-of-success@education.ox.ac.uk

RESEARCH STAFF FORUM

Research Staff Forum Stammtisch - *Wednesday, 12 March 2008, 6.00—9.00pm.* Harcourt Arms, Hart Street, Jericho, Oxford. All Contract Research Staff welcome.

Research Staff Social Lunch - *Thursdays, 12.30pm* at Lady Margaret Hall.

PAMPHLET LAUNCH

The IMPACT group will be hosting the launch of the following pamphlet on behalf of the Philosophy of Education Society of Great Britain
IMPACT PAMPHLET 15: INTELLIGENT DESIGN AND OTHER IDEOLOGICAL PROBLEMS by Mary Midgley
FRIDAY 7th MARCH 2008: 1.30pm – 4.30pm in the HEDLEY LECTURE THEATRE, ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Mary Midgley is a philosopher with a special interest in ethics, human nature and science. She is the author of many books including *Wickedness*, *Evolution as a Religion*, *The Ethical Primate*, *Science as Salvation*, *Science and Poetry*, and *The Myths We Live By*.

Mary Midgley will debate her pamphlet with Professor Steve Fuller (Warwick), Dr. Nicholas Everitt (UEA, author of *The Non-existence of God*), Professor Peter Harrison (Iddes Professor of Religion and Science in the University of Oxford and Fellow of Harris Manchester College) and Professor Michael Reiss, (Professor of Science Education at the Institute of Education, University of London)

If you wish to attend this launch, please contact Emeфа Amoako, the Impact Launch Administrator by email impact@education.ox.ac.uk or by telephone 01865 274001

DPHILS AWARDED

Congratulations to the following students who have successfully completed their DPhil Degrees:

Thabit Al-Murani The Deliberate Use of Variation to Teach Algebra: A Realistic Variation Study

Ioanna Kinti Balancing at the Boundaries of Organisations: Knowledge Co-Configuration Between Experts in an e-Science Project.

RESEARCH OFFICE

Copy Date for April Research Newsletter:

The deadline for submissions for the next Research Newsletter is Wednesday 19 March 2008. Please send items to the Research Office, which can be contacted by email at research.secretary@gmail.com, by telephone on 01865 284 898 or in person in Room NG.10.53 of 15 Norham Gardens.