



## **NOCIES Pre-Conference Early Career Research Workshop, October 9<sup>th</sup> 2019**

Jointly sponsored by the International and Comparative Education Research Group, ICER@SU, Stockholm University, and the Graduate School of Education, University of Tokyo.

The interdisciplinary research field of international and comparative education focuses on the intersection between pedagogy, policy and practice within and across global contexts. The tradition in the field involves the close investigation of transnational, regional, local and institutional dimensions of educational development, planning, delivery and assessment. Researchers in this field apply analytic units of comparison on for example, societal, locational, or individual dimensions to study the transversal of educational place and space.

This Pre-conference Workshop brings together established and new international researchers for professional networking and sharing of skills. The focus is on recognition, regeneration and renewal of the methodologies and analytic methods supporting and enriching comparative educational inquiry.

The workshop offers inspirational keynotes and hands-on workshops that allow for close encounters with empirical approaches and comparative analytic skills training. Participants will learn new data collection- and instrumental techniques and new ways in which to operationalise a comparative research rationale. We invite early career and postgraduate researchers to join our engaging team of experts for a full day program focusing on comparative empirical investigation.

The event is free of charge and provided as an add-on preference to the NOCIES Conference. [www.NOCIES.org](http://www.NOCIES.org) ICER@SU provides lunch and refreshments for all participants. Places are limited so get in early!

Registration is individual, and is due by **September 10, 2019** at:

[https://simpleeventsignup.com/private\\_event/152659/24c4e8bdc4](https://simpleeventsignup.com/private_event/152659/24c4e8bdc4)

Upon arrival, participants may register for one of the parallel workshops (A, B or C).

### **Program structure**

8.30	Arrival (Museum of Natural History, Lilla Hörsalen)		
9	Welcome ceremony (Lilla Hörsalen, MNH)		
9.30-10.30	Keynote 1. Professor Anthony Welch (Lilla Hörsalen, MNH)		
10.30	Morning tea		
11-12	Keynote 2. Professor Elaine Unterhalter (Lilla Hörsalen, MNH)		
12-13	lunch		
13-15	<b>Workshop A (JS)</b>	<b>Workshop B (MM)</b>	<b>Workshop C (CM)</b>
	Room (1508)	Room (1708)	Room (2527)
15-15.30	Afternoon tea		
15.30-17	Workshop A (JS)	Workshop B (MM)	Workshop C (CM)
	Room (1508)	Room (1708)	Room (2527)
17-17.30	Closing address (2403)		
18	Departure		

**Keynote I. Anthony Welch,**  
**Professor of Education, University of Sydney, Australia**  
**Title: A Comparative Life?**

The field of Comparative Education has evolved considerably over recent decades, from its largely humanistic post WWII origins, to a sprawling field of competing methodologies, and adherents. The decade of the 1960s represented perhaps the apogee of faith in the potential of science to solve problems in comparative education, a broadly positivist conviction, whose genesis can be traced back to the very earliest efforts, by figures such as Marc-Antoine Jullien de Paris in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The subsequent rejection of the positivist faith as the base for analytic and policy prescriptions in Comparative Education, issued in an array of alternatives, including critical ethnography, ethnomethodology, world systems theory, post-colonial theory, and varieties of post-modernism. Each had their proponents; each had their critics.

As well as this methodological pluralism (something not new to the field), the development of international agencies (UNESCO, OECD, ADB, World Bank, *inter alia*) has also changed the field, both because of their policy prescriptions (often ultimately derivative of some form of human capital theory), as also the substantial databases that are associated with these agencies. (Just reflect briefly, for example, on the impact of the OECDs PISA on education systems worldwide!). The increasing ubiquity of ICT's is also re-shaping how and where the work can be done.

All in all, these developments have led to a much larger and more diverse field (the most recent CIES conference held in April 2019 in San Francisco, attracted 3,600 registrations). A major part of that growth has come from Asia – where comparative education is growing vigorously. Taiwan, mainland China and Hong Kong are all experiencing a surge of interest, while the Japan CIES has more than one thousand members. Overall, while professionalization is evident, an increasing diversity of backgrounds is leading people into the field.

The presentation will offer a personal lens on these decades of change and development, as experienced by a long term specialist in the field, who could not have imagined all those years ago, when starting to study the field at the University of London, how the subsequent decades-long journey through the field, would turn out.

**Professor Welch** specialises in national and international policy and practice, principally in education, and cross-cultural analysis and research. He has extensive experience in many countries, including in the Asia Pacific, and has published widely, contributing numerous analyses of issues such as cross-cultural interactions; rural education, comparative research methods in education; and practical reform affecting multiculturalism, indigenous minorities, international students, higher education reforms, internationalisation of higher education in the Asia Pacific, and changes to the academic profession.

## **Keynote II. Elaine Unterhalter**

**Professor, UCL Institute of Education, UK**

### **Title: Women, gender, equality and comparative education: Some reflections**

The intertwined fields of comparative education and education and international development have been enormously generative for scholarship on the education of women and girls, and examination of ideas about gender, intersecting inequalities, and rights. This highlights the need for consideration of distributive and other features of work on equality and education. But, in noting the niche accorded this area of inquiry, I want to pose some questions about how this work has developed historically and what some of the current possibilities are for growth, connection and critique.

The talk will start with some consideration of the moment I began work on these issues, in the late 1970s, situating this historically, and drawing out some of the considerable developments that have since taken place, and the autobiographies of some of the inspiring analysts and practitioners.

In the second part of the discussion I will turn to some consideration of the connections between policy work on girls' education and gender equality, its relationship with academic research and some of problematic areas that need consideration in developing communities of practice and critique.

**Elaine Unterhalter** is Professor of Education and International Development and Co-Director of the Centre for Education & International Development at University College London Institute of Education. She is the Principal Investigator on the Accountability for Gender Equality and Education (AGEE) project and has written widely on gender issues in education. Her current concerns are with education, poverty and global social justice.

### **Workshop A. Dr Jonas Scharfenberg, Ludwig Maximilian's University, Germany**

*Empirical research in transnational contexts. Challenges, limitations and solutions regarding the use of quantitative instruments in international settings.*

This workshop focuses on identifying and aligning comparative content in data instruments for application across different country settings. Participants will learn how to preserve meaning within data instruments when adapting these to language and country variations.

**Dr. Jonas Scharfenberg** is a postdoctoral researcher at LMU Munich, Germany. His research interests include professionalization of teachers, intercultural school development and career choice with a special focus on comparative and international methodologies.

### **Workshop B: Dr Malgorzata Malec Rawinski, Stockholm University, Sweden**

*Qualitative comparative methods, ethnography and biographical approaches.*

In this interactive workshop participants will learn to analyse case study data collected in multiple countries and cross-country contexts. The workshop will make use of authentic biographical data collection and analytic examples.

**Dr Malgoszata Malec Rawinski** is a senior lecturer in Education at Stockholm University where she teaches on the master program in comparative and international education. Her research focuses on adult and life long education and the learning of older adults.

### **Workshop C: Dr Charles Mathies, Finnish Institute for Educational Research, University of Jyväskylä, Finland**

*Large-scale secondary data in international and comparative education.*

In this interactive workshop participants will learn about and how to address issues in using large-scale data collected by secondary sources (i.e. governments, NGOs, IGOs, etc.). Additionally, time will be devoted to exploring a number of sources of large-scale data that can be used in international and comparative research.

**Dr. Charles Mathies** is an Academy of Finland Research Fellow based at the Finnish Institute for Education Research in the University of Jyväskylä (Finland). His research focuses of the role of global markets, politics, and infrastructures in the movement of knowledge, data, and people across borders.

**A warm welcome!!**

ICER@SU Organising Committee

Meeri Hellstén

Susanne Kreitz-Sandberg

Ulf Fredriksson

<https://www.edu.su.se/english/research/research-groups/international-studies>

## Directions

<http://www.nrm.se/en/besokmuseet/inforbesoket/hittahit.49.html>

