“Rethinking early childhood education”

Pacific Early Childhood Education Research Association

8th Annual Conference

July 4-7, 2007

Hong Kong

Conference Venue: Yew Chung International School – Secondary
3 To Fuk Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon, HKSAR, China


Hosted by PECERA (Hong Kong)

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Supporting Organizations:
**Pacific Early Childhood Education Research Association**  
**The 8th Annual Conference**

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| **Wednesday, July 4** | Pre-conference Talk  
Healthy Childhood Development to Facilitate Teaching and Learning  
Prof. Albert LEE, Professor and Director of Centre for Health Education and Health Promotion, the Chinese University of Hong Kong |
| 9:30 am - 11:00 am | Registration |
| 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm | Professional visits to Hong Kong nursery schools, kindergartens, primary schools OR Cultural visits to Osage Art Gallery and Hong Kong Heritage Museum |
| 2:00 pm          | PECERA Steering Committee Meeting |
| **Thursday, July 5** | Registration |
| 8:15 am - 9:15 am | Opening Ceremony |
| 10:00 am - 11:00 am | Keynote Address I  
Communication, Collaboration and Creativity: A Model for Theory and Practice of Early Childhood Education  
Prof. Iram SiRAJ-BLATCHFORD, Professor of Early Childhood Education, the Institute of Education, University of London |
| 11:00 am - 11:30 am | Break |
| 11:30 am - 12:30 pm | Keynote Address II  
New Conclusions from the OECD Starting Strong Reviews  
Dr. John BENNETT, Senior Consultant to the OECD/Country Network |
| 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm | Lunch |
| 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm | Symposium I  
English as a Second Language in ECE: Policy, Pedagogy and Research - Australia, New Zealand and Southeast Asia  
Chair: Prof. Kathy SYLVA, Professor of Early Childhood Education at Jesus College, Oxford University |
| 3:30 pm - 4:00 pm | Break |
| 4:00 pm - 5:10 pm | Concurrent Paper Presentations (I)  
Authors available for Q&A |
| 5:15 pm - 6:15 pm | Welcome Reception |
| **Friday, July 6** | Keynote Address III  
Connecting with the Learning Brain  
Dr. Martin WESTWELL, Deputy Director of the Institute for the Future of the Mind at Oxford University |
| 9:30 am - 10:30 am | Symposium II  
Promoting Development and Well-being of Children: Multidisciplinary Perspectives  
Chair: Mr. Michael Puk-sun TIEN, BBS, JP, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Language Education and Research (SCOLAR), Education Bureau, HKSAR, HKSCI, the G3000 Group & KCR Corporation |
| 10:30 am - 11:00 am | Break |
| 11:00 am - 12:30 pm | Concurrent Paper Presentations (II)  
Concurrent Workshops (I)  
Authors available for Q&A |
| 12:30 pm - 1:50 pm | Lunch |
| 1:50 pm - 3:00 pm | Concurrent Paper Presentations (III)  
Concurrent Workshops (II)  
Authors available for Q&A |
| 3:00 pm - 3:20 pm | Break |
| 3:20 pm - 4:30 pm | Cultural Programme with Vegetarian Dinner at Nan Lian Garden |
| **Saturday, July 7** | Symposium III  
English as a Second Language in ECE: Policy, Pedagogy and Research - Japan, Korea and Chinese-speaking Region  
Chair: Prof. Kathy SYLVA, Professor of Early Childhood Education at Jesus College, Oxford University |
| 9:30 am - 11:00 am | Dialogue on "Re-thinking Early Childhood Education"  
Part I: Hong Kong Perspectives  
Mrs. Winnie YEUNG, Principal Inspector (KQ), Quality Assurance Division, Education Bureau, HKSAR  
Part II: Global Perspectives  
Chair: Dr. Nirmala RAO, Associate Professor and Acting Dean, Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong |
| 11:00 am - 11:30 am | Break |
| 11:30 am - 12:30 pm | Closing Ceremony |

**Remarks:**
1. The above schedule and information are subject to change at the discretion of the Organising Committee of PECERA 8th Annual Conference. Please refer to the Conference website (http://www.pecera.org.hk/2007/conference/) for updates.
2. Speeches and presentations will be conducted in English, Cantonese or Putonghua. Simultaneous interpretation service will be available for all sessions except Concurrent Sessions and Workshops.
3. There are 10 strands of the concurrent paper presentations and workshops:
   - Strand 1: Child Development
   - Strand 2: Early Childhood Curriculum and Pedagogy
   - Strand 3: Early Childhood Teacher Education
   - Strand 4: Children with Special Needs
   - Strand 5: Language Acquisition
   - Strand 6: Multi-disciplinary Collaborations
   - Strand 7: Family-School Partnerships
   - Strand 8: Education Media
   - Strand 9: Policy Issues
   - Strand 10: Innovative Practice in Early Childhood Education

**Contact Information:**
PECERA (Hong Kong) Secretariat  
Fax: (852) 2194 8773  
Hong Kong
About the Keynote Speakers

- Prof. SIRAJ-BLATCHFORD focuses on early childhood curriculum and policy development, ICT, parental involvement and the home learning environment, cross cultural socialization and multi-professional approaches to early care and education.

- Dr. John BENNETT was the former Director of the Early Childhood and Family unit at UNESCO, and as a consultant he co-authored with Michelle NEUMAN a comparative work on early childhood policy in twelve countries entitled Starting Strong: Early Childhood Education and Care published by OECD in 2001.

- Dr. WESTWELL undertook a number of research projects in neuroscience and is active in education and public-engagement-with-science initiatives. Among his research spectrum, Dr. WESTWELL studies the way young people form their minds and the way various technologies influence the minds of the young.

Chairperson of Symposium I and III

- Prof. SYLVA is currently undertaking a research study of bilingual English and Chinese language learning in ECE in Hong Kong. She will be the chairperson of Symposium I and III: English as a Second Language in ECE: Policy, Pedagogy and Research.

Chair: Prof. Kathy SYLVA
(Professor of Early Childhood Education at Jesus College, Oxford University)

Chairperson of Symposium II

- Mr. Michael TIEN is an active member in the Hong Kong community, especially in Education. He has been a Member of the Education Commission since 1996, and is the Chairman of Standing Committee on Language Education and Research (SCLR) since 2000.

Chair: Mr. Michael Puk-sun TIEN, BBS, JP
(Chairman of the Standing Committee on Language Education and Research (SCLR), Education Bureau, HKSARG, the G2000 Group & KCR Corporation)

Chairperson of Dialogue on “Re-thinking Early Childhood Education”

- Dr. RAO is a Developmental and Chartered (Educational) Psychologist, who conducts research on Child Development and Education in Asian cultural contexts. In recent years, her work has moved to have a greater focus on (i) early child development and education; and (ii) comparative studies of early development and education in China and India.

Chair: Dr. Nirmala RAO
(Associate Professor and Acting Dean, Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong)

Symposium speakers

Symposium I
English as a Second Language in ECE: Policy, Pedagogy and Research - Australia, New Zealand and Southeast Asia

Speakers:
- Australia: Prof. Sue GRIESEHABER
  Professor at the School of Early Childhood, Faculty of Education, Queensland University of Technology
- New Zealand: Dr. Lynda BOYD
  Associate Dean, Early Childhood Teacher Education, College of Education, University of Canterbury
- the Philippines: Dr. Grace KOO
  University of the Philippines
- Singapore: Dr. Audrey LIM
  Head of Department of Early Childhood Education, Hong Kong Institute of Education

Symposium II
Promoting Development and Well-being of Children: Multidisciplinary Perspectives

Speakers:
- Mrs. Frances CHENG
  Vice Director, Center for Health Education and Health Promotion, Faculty of Medicine, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Dr. Philemon CHOI
  General Secretary of Breakthrough
- Dr. Ka Yan LEE
  Professor, Department of Psychology, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Mrs. Priscilla LUI
  Vice-Chairperson of the HKE Committee on Children’s Rights and Director of Against Child Abuse

Symposium III
English as a Second Language in ECE: Policy, Pedagogy and Research - Japan, Korea and Chinese-speaking Region

Speakers:
- Japan: Dr. Sachiko KITANO
  Assistant Professor, National University Corporations, Fukuoka University of Education, Japan
- Korea: Prof. Nam-hee WOO
  Senior Professor at the Department of Child Study, Dongduk Women’s University and president of Korean Association for Mind, Brain & Education
- Taiwan: Dr. Chien-ju CHANG
  National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan
- Hong Kong: Dr. Sandy SHUM
  Standing Committee on Language Education and Research, Education Bureau, HKSARG

Dialogue on “Re-thinking Early Childhood Education”

Speaker:
- Mrs. Winnie YEUNG
  Assistant Professor, Principal Inspector (P1A), Quality Assurance Division, Education Bureau, HKSARG
About the Conference Exhibition

An exhibition will be staged at the gymnasium during the Conference to show the latest cutting edge educational resources and publications in the field, including teaching resources, learning packs, toys and the like.

About PECERA

The Pacific Early Childhood Education Research Association (PECERA) is an organization dedicated to disseminating and supporting research in early childhood education in the Pacific area. Members come from Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan, US and others.

On 28 January 2005, a dedicated group of early childhood educators successfully registered PECERA (Hong Kong) as a new chapter of PECERA. PECERA (Hong Kong) is envisioning that it will be a platform for all relevant professions to contribute to early childhood research. The 2007 PECERA Conference is the first annual conference that is held in Hong Kong.

Enquiry:

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