

# “Rethinking early childhood education”



Pacific Early Childhood Education  
Research Association

8<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

July 4-7, 2007  
Hong Kong

Conference Venue: **Yew Chung International School – Secondary**  
3 To Fuk Road, Kowloon Tong, Kowloon, HKSAR, China  
Conference website: <http://www.pecera.org.hk/2007Conference/>

Hosted by **PECERA (Hong Kong)**  
[www.pecera.org.hk](http://www.pecera.org.hk) tel: (852) 2339 6905 fax: (852) 2194 8773 email: [info@pecera.org.hk](mailto:info@pecera.org.hk)

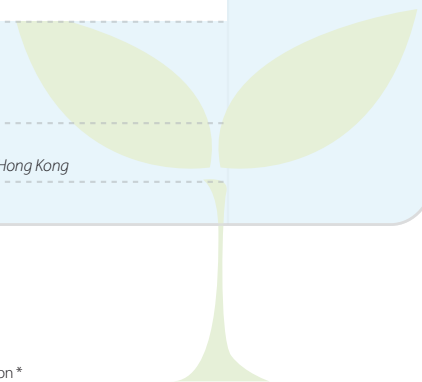
Supporting Organizations:

**PECERA**  
Hong Kong

教育局  
Education Bureau



Time	Activity	
Wednesday, July 4		
9:30 am - 11:00 am	<b>Pre-conference Talk</b> Healthy Childhood Development to Facilitate Teaching and Learning Prof. Albert LEE, <i>Professor and Director of Centre for Health Education and Health Promotion, the Chinese University of Hong Kong</i>	
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Registration	
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	
1:30 pm	PECERA Steering Committee Meeting	
Thursday, July 5		
8:15 am - 9:15 am	Registration	
9:15 am - 10:00 am	Opening Ceremony	
10:00 am - 11:00 am	<b>Keynote Address I</b> Communication, Collaboration and Creativity: A Model for Theory and Practice of Early Childhood Education Prof. Iram SIRAJ-BLATCHFORD, <i>Professor of Early Childhood Education, the Institute of Education, University of London</i>	
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Break	
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	<b>Keynote Address II</b> New Conclusions from the OECD Starting Strong Reviews Dr. John BENNETT, <i>Senior Consultant to the OECD Country Network</i>	Poster Presentations
12:30 am - 2:00 pm	Lunch	
2:00 pm - 3:30 pm	<b>Symposium I</b> English as a Second Language in ECE: Policy, Pedagogy and Research - Australia, New Zealand and Southeast Asia Chair: Prof. Kathy SYLVA, <i>Professor of Early Childhood Education at Jesus College, Oxford University</i>	
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		
9:30 am - 10:30 am	<b>Keynote Address III</b> Connecting with the Learning Brain Dr. Martin WESTWELL, <i>Deputy Director of the Institute for the Future of the Mind at Oxford University</i>	
10:30am - 11:00 am	Break	
11:00 pm - 12:30 pm	<b>Symposium II</b> Promoting Development and Well-being of Children: Multidisciplinary Perspectives Chair: Mr. Michael Puk-sun TIEN, BBS, JP, <i>Chairman of the Standing Committee on Language Education and Research (SCOLAR), Education Bureau, HKSARG, the G2000 Group &amp; KCR Corporation</i>	Poster Presentations
12:30 pm - 1:50 pm	Lunch	
1:50 pm - 3:00 pm	Concurrent Paper Presentations (II)	Concurrent Workshops (I)
3:00 pm - 3:20 pm	Break	
3:20 pm - 4:30 pm	Concurrent Paper Presentations (III)	Concurrent Workshops (II)
5:30 pm	Cultural Programme with Vegetarian Dinner at Nan Lian Garden	Authors available for Q&A
Saturday, July 7		
9:30 am - 11:00 am	<b>Symposium III</b> English as a Second Language in ECE: Policy, Pedagogy and Research - Japan, Korea and Chinese-speaking Region Chair: Prof. Kathy SYLVA, <i>Professor of Early Childhood Education at Jesus College, Oxford University</i>	
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Break	
11:30 am - 12:30 pm	<b>Dialogue on "Re-thinking Early Childhood Education"</b> Part I: Hong Kong Perspectives Mrs. Winnie YEUNG, <i>Principal Inspector (KG), Quality Assurance Division, Education Bureau, HKSARG</i>  Part II: Global Perspectives Chair: Dr. Nirmala RAO, <i>Associate Professor and Acting Dean, Faculty of Education, the University of Hong Kong</i>	
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	Closing Ceremony	



**Remarks:**

- 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/2007Conference/>) for updates.
- 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
- 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 \*

\* This theme presents knowledge and experience in ECE practice that is not typically research, but is innovative in implementing new ideas and theories.

4. Separate online registration is required for attending the Pre-Conference Talk on a first-come-first-served basis. Please visit <http://www.pecera.org.hk/2007Conference/Preconfer.htm> for details and registration.

## About the Keynote Speakers



**Prof. Iram  
SIRAJ-BLATCHFORD**

*(Professor of Early Childhood Education, the  
Institute of Education, University of London)*

- 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**

*(Senior Consultant to the OECD  
Country Network)*

- 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. Martin WESTWELL**

*(Deputy Director of the Institute for the  
Future of the Mind at Oxford University)*

- 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



**Chair: Prof. Kathy SYLVA**

*(Professor of Early Childhood Education  
at Jesus College, Oxford University)*

- 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.

## Chairperson of Symposium II



**Chair: Mr. Michael  
Puk-sun TIEN, BBS, JP**

*(Chairman of the Standing Committee  
on Language Education and Research (SCOLAR),  
Education Bureau, HKSARG, the G2000 Group  
& KCR Corporation)*

- 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 (SCOLAR) since 2000.

## Chairperson of Dialogue on "Re-thinking Early Childhood Education"



**Chair: Dr. Nirmala RAO**

*(Associate Professor and Acting Dean, Faculty  
of Education, the University of Hong Kong)*

- 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.

## 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 GRIESHABER**  
*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, Centre 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**  
*Paediatrician*
- **Mrs. Priscilla LUI**  
*Vice Chairperson of the HK 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**  
*Associate 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**  
*Principal Inspector (KG), 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:



### PECERA (Hong Kong) Secretariat

20 Somerset Road  
Kowloon Tong  
Hong Kong  
Tel: (852) 2339 6905  
Fax: (852) 2194 8773  
Email: [info@pecera.org.hk](mailto:info@pecera.org.hk)  
Website: [www.pecera.org.hk](http://www.pecera.org.hk)

## Conference Venue and transport links

### Yew Chung International School – Secondary

3 To Fuk Road, Kowloon Tong,  
Kowloon, HKSAR, China

#### Public transportation:

- Kowloon Canton Railway (KCR):  
Kowloon Tong station
- Mass Transit Railway (MTR):  
Kowloon Tong station Exit E
- Kowloon Green Public Minibuses:  
Routes No. 2, 25M, 29A, 29B, 72, 73
- New Territories Green Public Minibuses:  
Route No. 61M
- Public Buses (Kowloon Motor Bus):  
Routes No. 2C, 3C, 7, 70, 72X, 80M, 81C, 81M, 81P, 82M, 87D, 103, 170, 182, 203, 270A, 271, 280P, 281A, 796B

All the keynote addresses, symposia and the Dialogue on "Re-thinking Early Childhood Education" will be held at the auditorium.

Workshops and presentations will be held in various classrooms and function rooms. Please refer to the Conference programme at PECERA website for detailed information.



Campus of Yew Chung International School – Secondary



Location map