

A very warm welcome to you all as we share our leadership activities for Otago, Southland and South Canterbury schools and early childhood centres. This newsletter begins with a list of research personnel who lecture at the University of Otago College of Education. Their research areas may be of interest to those educational leaders who are working on in-school projects in parallel fields.

Research areas at the College of Education

Staff research at the College of Education, University of Otago

David Bell – research interests in aesthetic and intercultural learning at all levels, Japanese visual culture, and learning in cultural institutions. david.bell@otago.ac.nz.

David Berg

1. **Scaffolding metacognitive practice (with Kim Brown & Sylvia Robertson).** We are currently developing and researching interventions to help educators scaffold students' metacognition.
2. **Self efficacy beliefs and teaching behaviours** (with Naomi Ingram, Mustafa Asil & Jeff Smith). We are using data from NMSSA to explore how teachers' self-efficacy beliefs are aligned with teaching behaviours. david.berg@otago.ac.nz.

Margie Campbell-Price

1. **Curriculum enrichment and the nature of learning through experiences outside the classroom.** Specifically, I have investigated the justifications for and experiences associated with overseas school trips; the sustained influence of remote, long-duration (five week) outdoor education experiences, and explored how adventure is perceived by young people. I am interested in researching innovations in education outside the classroom, particularly in cross-curricular approaches and the inclusion of culturally responsive and sustainable practices.
2. **Beginning teachers experiences.** I am particularly interested in the transition from initial teacher education into the early years of teaching.

Jenny Daly - I am researching (with **Catherine Morrison**) conditions in school **professional learning communities** that support new teachers' development and commitment to teaching. We are gathering the perspectives of new teachers who are participating in professional learning communities as well as leaders or facilitators of professional learning communities. jenny.daly@otago.ac.nz.

Sonya Gaches - Children's perspectives of their learning, community and future.

Based upon my consultation with primary-aged children, I am currently seeking the perspectives from younger children (3-5 year olds) about their learning, community engagement and how they see the future. This research also explores the many ethical issues of researching with young children. sonya.gaches@otago.ac.nz.

Alex Gunn - The work of teacher educators (with David Berg and others). We have examined the day-to-day work of teacher educators and how their work is constructed by universities. alex.gunn@otago.ac.nz.

Naomi Ingram

1. **Growing Mathematics Teachers.** A study which explored the growth of preservice teachers' relationships with mathematics.
2. **Teachers' pedagogical approach to mathematics,** as related to their self-efficacy beliefs – using NMSSA data.
3. **Challenging Tasks.** This research project explored an innovative approach to teaching mathematics through the use of challenging tasks. naomi.ingram@otago.ac.nz.

Rachel Martin

1. Teaching and Development Grant: teaching 300-level Professional Inquiry and te reo Māori in initial primary teacher education (ITE). **This research explores how Māori values, and the use of te reo Māori** could become an integral component of ITE students' learning and strengthen the understanding of te reo me ngā āhuatanga Māori for both students and educators.
2. Teaching and Learning Research Initiative grant (TLRI) 2019-2020: **Co-constructing a culturally and linguistically sustaining, Te Tiriti-based Ako framework for socio-emotional wellbeing in education:** A collaborative project among teachers, whānau, hapū and iwi to enable a holistic approach to education.
3. Better Start National Science Challenge Successful Literacy and Learning theme precursor study to developing a **bilingual tool for literacy and learning in the first year of primary school.** rachel.martin@otago.ac.nz.

Hugh Morrison - I am a passionate historian focusing on religious and childhood history in the contexts of the wider British world of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

1. **Children and the missionary movement** – how they were pedagogically involved in countries like New Zealand and Scotland, and the experiences of the children of missionary families.
2. **Young people writing their own lives** – using school writing & contexts from 1930s and 1940s New Zealand to examine how they understood both self and context in those pivotal decades. hugh.morrison@otago.ac.nz.

Karen Nairn – young people working to create social change: I'm working with young people (aged 18 to 29-ish) engaged in activist groups to address climate change, social and economic injustice, and civil rights (eg feminist and queer rights). We are interested in young people's vision for change, what actions they think are effective, and what sustains their engagement over time. karen.nairn@otago.ac.nz.

Keryn Pratt

1. **Online and blended learning in New Zealand primary and secondary schools:** Working to document what is currently happening in this area, with a particular focus on how students are being supported to ensure all can achieve
2. **Research culture of the UOCE:** Exploring the degree to which Masters and Doctoral students feel part of a research culture at UOCE, how important this is to them, and how their perceptions compare to those of staff.
3. **ITE and online learning:** Exploring the knowledge and perceptions of initial teacher educators of online and blended learning in primary and secondary schools.
keryn.pratt@otago.ac.nz

Gill Rutherford

- Working effectively with teacher aides
- Disabled students' experiences of education
- Students' rights

I am particularly interested in working with students, teachers, teacher aides and principals to explore relevant issues in ways that involve them as much as possible throughout a research project (researching *with* rather than *on*). gill.rutherford@otago.ac.nz.

Steven Sexton - Digital Technology: In 2017, the Ministry of Education released an update to the National Curriculum making digital technology compulsory for curriculum levels 1-5 (equivalent to the first ten years of a student' education). My research investigates how effective a series of scaffolded lessons, tailored to each year group, on coding with codable toys was in addressing the requirement to implement a new subject area that has not been a part of in-service teachers' ITE programme. steven.sexton@otago.ac.nz.

Jane Tilson - My current research interests include critical literacy, critical multiliteracies, critical reflective practice in teacher education and supporting teachers to conduct a cycle of inquiry into their use of dialogue in their writing programmes in order to foster a dialogic teaching space. jane.tilson@otago.ac.nz.

Individual leadership

At the College of Education site in Lower Union Street, Dunedin, we have an office space dedicated to the use of visiting leaders and teacher leaders from schools and centres. This office can be used free of charge by personnel such as

- principals planning for, or working on, their study leave activities
- teachers undertaking University of Otago College of Education postgraduate leadership and management papers outside of school hours / in holiday time

- school or centre leaders wanting a “quiet space” for strategic planning, building designs, etc.

The office has a desk, computer and storage space. As part of this service, visitors will have access to professional input from Ross Notman, CELA Director, and to the CELA Library which has a large number of educational leadership and management books available for use. Please contact Ross at ross.notman@otago.ac.nz to book this office or to inquire about other flexible use of the leadership facility.

Research projects in Educational Leadership

CELA has two research projects under way in 2019:

1. **International Successful School Principalship Project (ISSPP)**
Principal identity in changing circumstances of a joint principalship [Ross Notman]
2. **A University of Otago funded project**
Curriculum leadership by middle leaders in two secondary schools [Susan Sandretto & Kate Rice]

Primary AP/DP professional

After a very successful inaugural day in 2018, we will deliver a second professional learning day for AP/DP personnel in Otago primary schools on Friday 3 May at the Education Centre, 157 Union Street East, Dunedin. This will be run by Dr Sylvia Robertson and myself. The aim is also to give impetus to the establishment of a regional group of primary AP/DPs.

My best wishes for your in-school and outside-school and centre leadership development in 2019. You are most welcome to contact me about any leadership matters at the email address below.

Kind regards

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