

CERCular

CERC
Newsletter



Comparative Education Research Centre
Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong

From the Director

The six months that have passed since the last issue of *CERCular* was published may have been CERC's busiest yet. CERC has hosted no fewer than 17 seminars: 13 by international visitors to CERC and four by our local colleagues. We have been proud to feature seminars by Robin Alexander on improving educational practice through comparative education research, Carole Hahn on methodological issues, and Harvey Siegel on the question of rationality across cultures. But highlighting these three does scant justice to the other excellent seminars, which are detailed in the pages of this issue of *CERCular*.

Some of these international visitors have spent considerable periods of time with us at CERC, and have contributed significantly to further research in the field. They have included Mina O'Dowd from Sweden, Jason Tan from Singapore, and Michael Peters from the USA. Vandra Masemann from the University of Toronto, and Bob Adamson, a former Director of CERC from Liverpool Hope University, came specifically to work on the production of books that will be published in conjunction with CERC colleagues in the CERC Studies in Comparative Education series, which is co-published with Springer. A full list of our visitors is included in this issue.

CERC also published two more books in these past few months. As an indication of our continued strength in the publishing arena, we expect to have published a further eight books by this time next year. This strength in publishing has helped to establish CERC as "one of the key centres of comparative education in the world". This particular quote is from an article in *The New Educational Review* (Vol. 5, No. 1, 2005, p. 268), and is one of many similarly favourable assessments.

The fact that Comparative Education was selected by the University Research Committee as one of 21 themes for strategic research development is a further indication of the strength of the field at the University of Hong Kong. In recognition of his standing in the field, exemplified by his presidency of the World Council of

Comparative Education Societies (WCCES), Mark Bray, Chair Professor of Comparative Education, has been invited to lead this work. CERC is providing support for the projects that have been allocated funding from the one million Hong Kong dollars awarded as part of the university's development of this particular strategic research theme. These projects include research that will lead to the publication of no fewer than six books to be published in the CERC Studies in Comparative Education series. The projects supported by this funding are listed in the pages of this issue.

That CERC continues to ride the crest of a very powerful wave will stand us in good stead as we go through some personnel changes. We are in the process of employing a research assistant to provide further support for the research described in these paragraphs and in the pages of this issue. A few months ago our Research Assistant Professor, Yang Rui, had to leave us prematurely because of family reasons, but the good news is that we are currently searching for his replacement with funding won in competition with all Faculties at the University. Greg Fairbrother, an active member of CERC and of our Management Committee, will leave us in early January to take up a position at the Hong Kong Institute of Education. And many colleagues and friends across the world know that in March 2006 Mark Bray will move to Paris as the Director of UNESCO's International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP). The IIEP is widely acknowledged as the jewel in UNESCO's crown, and it is an exceptional honour to Mark and to his colleagues in CERC, the Faculty and the University that he has been appointed to this position. He will be missed, but CERC intends to expand our co-operation with UNESCO and the IIEP with this move. We view this less as a loss and more as an exciting opportunity for wider collaboration in the field, and while we will have more to say about this in the next issue of *CERCular*, for now we wish Mark Bray well as he prepares for this new challenge.

Mark Mason

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The last issue of *CERCular* reported that comparative education had been identified by the University of Hong Kong's Research Committee as one of 21 constituent themes for accelerated development. This meant the allocation of additional places for research postgraduate students, plus seed funding of HK\$1million. In August, funds were allocated for a number of projects that would lead to the following research outcomes:

- a book edited by Carol Chan and Nirmala Rao, *Revisiting the Chinese Learner: Psychological and Pedagogical Perspectives*, in the CERC Studies in Comparative Education series (co-published with Springer);
- a book edited by Gerry Postiglione, *Higher Education in East Asia*, in the CERC Studies in Comparative Education series (co-published with Springer);
- a book edited by Vandra Masemann, Mark Bray and Maria Manzon, *Common Interests, Uncommon Goals: Histories of the World Council of Comparative Education Societies and its Members*, in the CERC Studies in Comparative Education series (co-published with Springer);
- a book edited by Mark Bray, Bob Adamson and Mark Mason, *Comparative Education Research: Approaches and Methods*, in the CERC Studies in Comparative Education series (co-published with Springer);
- a book edited by Ora Kwo, *Teachers as Learners*, in the CERC Studies in Comparative Education series (co-published with Springer); and,
- in conjunction with the East-West Center in Hawaii, a book edited by Peter Hershock, Mark Mason and John Hawkins, *Education 2020: Asia Pacific Realities and Responses*, in the CERC Studies in Comparative Education series (co-published with Springer).

Funds were also allocated for the following research purposes to:

- The African Studies Group at the University of Hong Kong, led by Adams Bodomo, to support a workshop comparing African and Asian educational issues that would lead to a special issue of a journal in African studies;
- Jason Tan, a CERC Fellow visiting from the National Institute of Education in Singapore, to continue his research on a book on education in Singapore, to be published by CERC;
- The CERC Director, representing the Dean as Head of the Hong Kong IEA Centre, to attend the 2005 and 2006 General Assemblies of the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA), to enable CERC to better support IEA-related research at the University of Hong Kong; and,
- CERC, to support its hosting of the combined Comparative Education Society of Asia (CESA) and Comparative Education Society of Hong Kong (CESHK) Conference in January 2007.

Funds were also set aside for half the salary of CERC's Senior Research Assistant, to enable her to work full-time for CERC and in support of these research projects, and for the employment of a Research Assistant for the same purpose.

The focus in the disbursement of all funds has been on support for the production of published research outputs that make a worthwhile contribution to the field. The Comparative Education constituent theme has proceeded with vigour along the lines planned, and these projects have been a substantial part of the activity in CERC during this past semester.

In particular, we can highlight the following:

- Two RPG students (one from mainland China, and the other from Russia, see page 8) have arrived and are hard at work. The third (also from mainland China) is on the way;
- Nirmala Rao and Carol Chan, who are convening the sub-theme focusing on *Chinese learners in comparative perspectives*, organised a workshop during which authors for a co-edited book, *Revisiting the*



Chinese Learner, presented their work (see page 4);

- Gerry Postiglione, coordinator of the sub-theme on *comparative higher education* has organised a workshop which will take place on 11 February 2006;
- In the strand *comparative studies of curriculum and educational achievement*, grant proposals are being prepared for a comparative project on mathematics learning, in association with the IEA.

The strand on African Studies has been able to confirm that Professor Kenneth King (Centre of African Studies, University of Edinburgh) will come to the University of Hong Kong as a Distinguished Visiting Professor for 12 months from 1 March 2006. He will be a key player for moving ahead on that strand of development.

Meanwhile, the Constituent Theme has also been able, as planned, to host visits by Vandra Masemann, Harvey Siegel and Jason Tan (see page 5).

My Impression of the 2nd Worldwide Forum for Comparative Education

Mitsuko Maeda



(From right) M.V. Mukundan, Maria Manzon, Jiang Kai, Yang Rui, Mark Bray, Mitsuko Maeda, Li Mei and Emily Mang

The 2nd Worldwide Forum for Comparative Education took place in Beijing from 22 to 24 August 2005. The event was organised by Beijing Normal University, and CERC was a co-sponsor. The theme of the conference was "Globalization of Education: Government, Market and Society". I attended as a member of CERC. My impression of the forum? I can summarize it in a single word – HUGE. The forum was huge in many ways.

First is the fact that the forum was held in China. China is a huge country, with a vast population and a long history. Its size really hit me when I joined a one-day tour, arranged by the forum, to the Great Wall and the Summer Palace. The Summer Palace was so huge that I strayed from the group with two other participants and we got lost! The forum venue itself, Beijing Normal University, also impressed me with its hugeness. Not only is the architecture of the University massively impressive, but so is the University's standing in China as a research and educational institution.

The theme of the forum was also huge. With the words "Worldwide" and "Globalization" in the title, the forum attracted distinguished participants from all over the world, and it focused on a huge issue – the influence of globalization on education. Indeed, the theme was so big that it could not be covered adequately within the limited time of the forum. While much discussion was given to the general phenomenon of globalization and to the positive and negative influences for developing countries, some aspects got too little attention. Does

globalization always lead to change? Can it not sometimes be used to maintain the status quo? These were among the issues not covered by the forum. While I benefited from what was discussed there, thinking about the things not discussed also gave me new insights into this very big theme.

Thirdly, the forum offered me an opportunity to meet people with huge hearts. One impressive person was the student who helped to interpret my presentation. She had spent many hours in translating my paper and preparing for the session, until she fully understood what I was trying to say. I saw this in the many notes she had scribbled in the margins of her copy of the manuscript. In the session, however, because most in the audience understood English, no interpreter was needed. I can imagine how disappointed she was, but she did not show it. She smiled and said, "Thank you. I learned a lot from your paper." What a huge heart! Another person with a huge heart was the student who guided the one-day tour and patiently looked for the three lost participants in the Summer Palace. When she found us, she gave us a big smile as well.

My impression of hugeness was confirmed after the conference ended. Hong Kong's main English-language newspaper, the *South China Morning Post*, reported on the forum on 3 September, and devoted 40 cm by 25 cm of space to the report – an impressive amount. This convinced me that the forum was indeed huge!

Mark Mason attended the 46th IEA (International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement) General Assembly in Helsinki from 10-13 October 2005. He attended both as the Dean's representative, since the Dean is Head of the Hong Kong IEA Centre, and as the CERC Director, since CERC is charged with supporting IEA-related research in Hong Kong.

The meeting was hosted in Helsinki by the University of Jyväskylä's Institute for Educational Research, headed by Jouni Valijarvi. Progress reports on current IEA research projects were presented and discussed: SITES 2006, TIMSS 2007, TIMSS Advanced, PIRLS 2006, TEDS-M, and ICCES 2008. The University of Hong Kong had its flag flying high, given that Nancy Law is leading the team preparing the teacher questionnaire for SITES 2006 - the Second International Information Technology and Education Study. Colleagues doing IEA-related research in Hong Kong are evidently held in high regard in this forum.

With respect to the ICCES (International Civic and Citizenship Education Study) 2008, the meeting considered the issue that in countries where a Confucian-heritage culture predominates, ideas of citizenship might differ from typically Western ideas. The IEA is consequently to explore the possibility of a study constituted by two main sections: a core section of the study, to be addressed by all countries,

and a region-specific section, tailored to the circumstances of particular regions (where, for example, a Confucian-heritage culture might prevail).

To encourage further dissemination and publication, and especially secondary analysis, of IEA data, Tom Loveless, the USA country representative from the Brookings Institution in Washington DC, will host the next IEA Research Conference. The conference will be held at the Brookings Institution, from 9 to 11 November 2006.

The IEA's relations with the OECD (INES Network A) over IEA-related studies and the PISA studies took up a substantial amount of time at the meeting. A resolution was adopted to form a "co-operation task force" with members from both the IEA General Assembly and the PISA Governing Board. Its mandate would be to ensure co-operation between the IEA and OECD "in order to foster the continued quality and utility of international comparative studies for member countries".

Apart from the other benefits of our being represented in Helsinki, Mark Mason learned a great deal, and came away with a better understanding of the different studies undertaken by the IEA. CERC will accordingly be able to offer stronger support for IEA-related research in Hong Kong, particularly with regard to the publication of research findings.

The next General Assembly will be held in Amiens, northern France, from 9 to 12 October 2006.

Revisiting the Chinese Learner: Psychological and Pedagogical Perspectives

Funded under the University Strategic Research Theme, an authors' meeting was held on 30 November 2005 in the Foundation Chamber at the University of Hong Kong. Most of the chapter authors participated in the one-day meeting. The anticipated contents of the book are:

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Globalization and its Impact on Teaching and Learning
- 3 Learning to Self-perfect: Chinese Beliefs about Learning
- 4 Competition in Hong Kong Secondary Schools:
The Students' Perspective
- 5 The Cultural Background of the Chinese Learner
- 6 New Experiences, New Epistemology and the Pressures of Change:
The Chinese Learner in Transition
- 7 Teaching Mathematics: Observations from Urban and Rural Primary
Schools in Mainland China
- 8 Curriculum Reforms and Teaching the New Chinese Language Curriculum
- 9 Preschool Pedagogy: A Fusion of Traditional Chinese Cultural Beliefs and
Contemporary Notions of Appropriate Practice
- 10 Becoming Knowledge-Building Teachers and Learners in the Chinese
Context
- 11 Teaching English to Chinese-Speaking Children
- 12 In Search of a Third Space: Teachers' Professional Development in China
13. Conclusions



The participants had fruitful discussions about their presentations in a workshop that contributed significantly to the production of the book.

Seminars

CERC maintains a vigorous programme of seminars. The following is the list since the last issue:

- 30 Mar. Jean Berlie, "Islamic Education in Myanmar: Case Studies in Yangon (Rangoon) and Kengtung State"
- 15 Apr. Eve Coxon, "Global/Local Intersections in Fijian Education"
- 27 Apr. Greg Fairbrother, "Comparing Responses to National Citizenship Education Policy in Chinese Provincial-level Education Discourse"
- 4 May Yang Rui & Jiang Kai, "Fostering Scientific Spirit in China's Educational Research: An Example of Policy Studies"
- 11 May Maria Manzon, "Comparative Education: Academic Knowledge Production and Discourse Formation" 
- 18 May Mitsuko Maeda, "Power Relations among Actors in Development Cooperation: Patterns, Models, and the Example of a Japanese-Assisted Teacher Training Project in Cambodia"
- 25 May Carole Hahn, "Conducting Comparative and International Education Research"
- 24 June Yoko Yamato, "Economic Development and the Market Place for Education: Dynamics of the International Schools Sector in Shanghai" 
- 9 Sept. Brian Denman, "World Universities and Cross-Border Higher Education"
- 23 Sept. Juan Manuel Moreno, "Expanding Opportunities and Building Competencies for Young People: A New Agenda for Secondary Education" 
- 26 Oct. Robin Alexander, "Comparative Research, Policy Borrowing and the Improvement of Educational Practice: Sadler Revisited"
- 28 Oct. Albert Motivans, "Teachers and Primary Education Quality in Less Developed Countries"
- 2 Nov. Mina O'Dowd, "Learning from Childhood to Mature Adulthood: What makes people want to learn to learn and keep on learning?"
- 9 Nov. Jason Tan, "Moulding the Future? Singapore Education 1979-2005"
- 18 Nov. Vandra Masemann, "Comparing Education across Cultures"
- 23 Nov. Harvey Siegel, "Multiculturalism and Rationality"
- 30 Nov. Michael Peters, "Higher Education and the Knowledge Economy"

Visitors

CERC's visitors since the last issue include the following:



- 15 Apr. Eve Coxon, University of Auckland
- 12 May Nolwen Henaff, Institute de Recherche pour le Développement, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
- 19 Aug. Christine Fox, University of Wollongong, Secretary General of WCCES



- 2 Sept. John Morgan & Simon McGrath, University of Nottingham

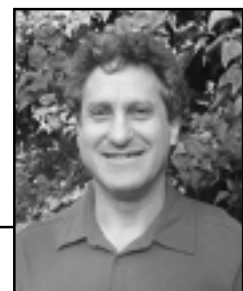
- 15-19 Oct. Bob Adamson, Liverpool Hope University

- 15 Oct. - Mina O'Dowd, Lund University, Sweden
- 23 Dec.

- 1 Nov. - Jason Tan, National Institute of Education, Singapore
- 1 Dec.

- 16-26 Nov. Vandra Masemann, Ontario Institute of Studies in Education, Canada

- 18-30 Nov. Harvey Siegel, University of Miami





The World Council of Comparative Education Societies was founded in 1970 as an international organisation of comparative education societies to advance their field of expertise. CERC hosts the secretariat and website for the WCCES, and many members play an active role in the organisation.

New Secretary General of the World Council of Comparative Education Societies (WCCES)

Christine Fox, of the University of Wollongong, Australia has been elected Secretary General for a five-year period. Christine was elected from an outstanding pool of candidates, and brings to the post long experience and great dedication to WCCES affairs. She has twice been President of the Australian & New Zealand Comparative & International Education Society (ANZCIES), and has represented ANZCIES on the WCCES Executive Committee. She has also very ably chaired the Congress Standing Committee, and contributed to the WCCES in many other ways. She has a strong reputation as a scholar in the field, and practical experience of professional work in diverse countries. Mark Bray, WCCES President, remarked: "The WCCES is indeed fortunate that Christine was willing to take up this role, and I much look forward to working with her in this new capacity".



XIII World Congress

The XIII World Congress will be held in Sarajevo, capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina at a date soon to be confirmed. It will be hosted by the Mediterranean Society of Comparative Education (MESCE), and organised under the leadership of Professor Dr Adila Kreso of the University of Sarajevo. In September 2005, Professor Kreso met with WCCES President Mark Bray, Secretary General Christine Fox and WCCES Chair of the Congress Standing Committee Rosemary Preston to review the Congress site, meet with key people and dignitaries in the city of Sarajevo, and confirm WCCES commitment to supporting the Congress.

Sarajevo is a historic city of great beauty and cultural and spiritual significance. It has already undergone great reconstruction and reconciliation after a decade of peace. As a meeting ground of Islamic, Christian and Jewish cultures, and as a society with recent memories of resolving conflict, it is an especially appropriate location for a Congress on the theme "Living Together: Education and Intercultural Dialogue".

Comparative and International Education Course Archive Project (CIECAP)

The Comparative and International Education Course Archive Project (CIECAP) is an on-line database and analytic instrument constructed to serve and advance the field of comparative education. CIECAP stems from continuing research on the introductory course in comparative education as carried out by Erwin H. Epstein of Loyola University Chicago and coordinated by the Comparative and International Education Graduate Student Association at Loyola. The project's overarching purpose is to document and analyse how the introductory course is taught at institutions in the field so as to: 1) deepen understanding of the way in which comparative education is conceptualised across varying contexts and over time, and 2) inform the development of curriculum and the teaching of the course. The CIECAP project is not just one database, but a set of databases that collectively archive and analyse key elements of the introductory course, including unit topics, journal articles, texts, authors, and the interests and specialisations represented by specific course instructors.

The WCCES, in its 34th Executive Committee meeting in Malaysia in May 2005, endorsed CIECAP as an official project under the WCCES umbrella. A formal and continuous link of the CIECAP website will be maintained on the WCCES website. The CIECAP organisers envision the inclusion of course outlines in languages other than English as well as the translation of English-language outlines to other languages. Interested parties may visit CIECAP's website for more details (www.luc.edu/schools/education/ciegsa/).

Argentinean Society joins WCCES

The WCCES welcomed its 33rd constituent society, the *Sociedad Argentina de Estudios Comparados en Educación* (SAECE), during its 34th Executive Committee meeting in Malaysia in May 2005. Admission of SAECE brings the total number of Latin American societies in the WCCES to four, alongside the Brazilian, Cuban and Mexican Societies. The SAECE president, Norberto Fernández Lamarra participated in the 12th World Congress held in Havana, Cuba. During the Havana Congress, the *Asociación Iberoamericana de Sociedades de Educación Comparada* (AISEC) was formed under the leadership of Ferran Ferrer, president of the *Sociedad Española de Educación Comparada* (SEEC). These developments signal the further strengthening of the field of comparative education in that region. SAECE organised its first Argentinean Congress of Comparative Studies in Buenos Aires from 18-19 November 2005.

Representation of WCCES at UNESCO General Conference

WCCES is an international non-government organization in operational relations with UNESCO. It was represented by Secretary General Christine Fox at the 33rd Session of UNESCO General Conference in Paris, 3-21 October 2005. This gave a valuable opportunity to network in the field.

WCCES Comparative Histories Project

The WCCES is preparing an edited volume to be published by CERC and Springer on the history of the World Council and of its constituent societies (see *CERCular*, No.2 of 2004, p.17 and p.2 of this issue). The book entitled *Common Interests, Uncommon Goals: Histories of the World Council of Comparative Education Societies and its Members* will gather personal memoirs of the Council's past presidents, followed by a historical and analytical account of its national, regional and language-based societies. The book is edited by Vandra Masemann (WCCES past President and Secretary General), Mark Bray (WCCES President and past Secretary General) and Maria Manzon (PhD Student based in CERC, Hong Kong). A pair of panels was held during the CIES conference in Stanford (March 2005), and focused on the WCCES itself, the CIES and the CIESC. Another pair of panels was organised during the CESA conference in Malaysia (May 2005), focusing on the ANZCIES, CESA, CESHK, KCES, MESCE, and SIIVEDGE. In parallel, a panel was held during the CIESC conference in Canada (also May 2005). A panel will be held during the CIES Conference in Hawaii (March 2006). The project is producing some very interesting materials, and is also stimulating reflection and documentation in many of the Council's constituent societies.



The book is edited by Vandra Masemann (WCCES past President and Secretary General), Mark Bray (WCCES President and past Secretary General) and Maria Manzon (PhD Student based in CERC, Hong Kong). A pair of panels was held during the CIES conference in Stanford (March 2005), and focused on the WCCES itself, the CIES and the CIESC. Another pair of panels was organised during the CESA conference in Malaysia (May 2005), focusing on the ANZCIES, CESA, CESHK, KCES, MESCE, and SIIVEDGE. In parallel, a panel was held during the CIESC conference in Canada (also May 2005). A panel will be held during the CIES Conference in Hawaii (March 2006). The project is producing some very interesting materials, and is also stimulating reflection and documentation in many of the Council's constituent societies.

Conference Announcements of Constituent Societies

MESCE 2006-Conference of the Mediterranean Society of Comparative Education

4-6 February 2006

Bibliotheca Alexandrina, Alexandria, Egypt

Theme: Community Participation, Decentralization and Education to Democracy in the Mediterranean Area

Enquiry for non-Egyptians: gpampa@nti.it

Enquiry for Egyptians: adlyfatena@hotmail.com

CIES 2006-50th Anniversary Celebration Conference of the Comparative and International Education Society

14-18 March 2006

Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

Theme: Rethinking the Comparative

Enquiry: CIESHawaii@gmail.com

Website: www.outreach.hawaii.edu/CIES/

AFEC 2006-International Conference on "Education and Training: The Search for Quality"

18-20 April 2006

Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, Vietnam

Website: www.educationhcm.com

BCES 2006-4th International Conference of the Bulgarian Comparative Education Society

1-4 May 2006

Sofia, Bulgaria

Theme: Comparative Education and Teacher Training

Enquiry: npopov@fnpp.uni-sofia.bg

Website: http://edcollege.ucf.edu/esdepart/cett

30th International Conference of the French-speaking Association of Comparative Education (AFEC)

22-24 June 2006

Villeneuve d'Ascq, France

Theme: School as a Place of Tensions and Mediations: What Impact on School Practices? International Analysis and Comparisons

Enquiry: Colloqueafec2006@hotmail.fr

Website: www.lille.iufm.fr/afec2006/index.php

CESE 2006-22nd International Congress of the Comparative Education Society in Europe

3-7 July 2006

Universidad de Granada, Spain

Enquiry: cese@ugr.es

Website: www.cese2006.org

X Congreso Nacional de la Sociedad Española de Educación Comparada

6-8 September 2006

Palacio de Miramar, Donostia-San Sebastian, Spain

Enquiry: seec@sc.ehu.es

Website: www.sc.ehu.es/sfwseec/con2006.htm

BAICE 2006-Conference of the British Association for International and Comparative Education

8-10 September 2006

Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland

Enquiry: r.pritchard@ulster.ac.uk



Chen Qian, a new PhD student in the Faculty of Education, is also a new member of CERC. In July 2005, she received her Master of Science at Southwest China Normal University, which is located in Chongqing, a beautiful mountainous city of southwest China. Her hometown is in Guizhou province, which also lies in the southwest of China. It is her first time to come to Hong Kong and she is still getting used to the new environment.

During the past three years of postgraduate study, she was actively involved in the compiling and piloting of mathematics textbooks for primary schools in the context of the new curriculum of China. The experience gave her a good foundation for completing the masters' thesis, which is a comparative study of new and old mathematics textbooks for primary schools. This thesis inspired her desire for further comparative study.

Her current research interests are comparative studies in the field of mathematics education. CERC wishes her success in her studies.

In August 2005, Andrey Uroda, a new PhD student in comparative education, joined the Faculty of Education and CERC. His research focuses on jointly established partnership programs by universities in Heilongjiang, China and the Far-Eastern Russian city of Vladivostok, where Andrey is originally from. Before undertaking his PhD venture, Andrey worked for a dozen years as the Director of the Office of International Programs in the Far-Eastern State Technical University (FESTU) in Vladivostok, one of the largest and best-known higher educational institutions in the eastern part of the Russian Federation. He also used to teach at the Department of Chinese Studies of the Oriental Institute in the same university, and served as research advisor of the FESTU's representative office in Zhejiang, China.



Andrey graduated in 1994 from the Sinology Department of the Far-Eastern State University, another well-known university in Vladivostok, specialising in contemporary history and politics of China. In 1998 he obtained his Master of Education degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo under the support of a Muskie/Freedom Support Act Fellowship of the US Department of State, putting his practice in comparative and international education on a research track. He has published 10 articles about internationalizing education in China and working with Chinese students, and actively travels to conferences increasing his practical and academic networking. In 2003-2004 Andrey received a grant from the Academic Fellowship Program of Soros Foundation Network for promoting teaching, research and outreach initiatives.

Andrey is doing his best to promote comparative and international education studies in Russia. He also thinks that regional initiatives are more important and sustainable than sets of centrally mandated policies. In CERC, he is changing our outlook on Russia, helping us to understand this large and important country.

CERC Management Committee (2005-2007)

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	Frederick Leung	Maria Manzon	Edwin Yiu
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CERCular editors: Mark Mason, Emily Mang, Maria Manzon

WCCES Book in Multiple Languages



In 2003, Kluwer (Dordrecht and Boston) published a collection of papers from the 11th World Congress of Comparative Education Societies, held in South Korea in 2001. The book was edited by Mark Bray, and entitled *Comparative Education: Continuing Traditions, New Challenges, and New Paradigms*. The book is available from CERC for HK\$200 or US\$32 including postage. See www.hku.hk/cerc/Publications/wcces.htm

The book has now been translated into other languages. During 2005, the book was published in:

- *Bulgarian* under the direction of Nikolay Popov; available from the Bureau of Educational Services in Sophia, Bulgaria <npopov@fnpp.uni-sofia.bg>;
- *Farsi* under the direction of Abbas Arani; available from Jungle Publishing House in Tehran, Iran <abbas-arani@yahoo.com>; and
- *Japanese* under the direction of Toru Umakoshi and Yutaka Otsuko; available from Toshido

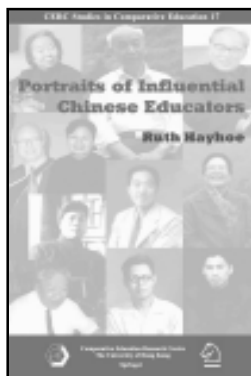
Publisher in Tokyo, Japan <tk203444@fsinet.or.jp>
www.toshindo.pub.com.

Further languages are on the way: the book is in the process of being translated into Chinese, Hungarian, Italian, and Spanish. The WCCES is delighted through these channels to reach multiple communities and truly promote the field of comparative education around the world.



Forthcoming CERC Books

CERC Studies in Comparative Education

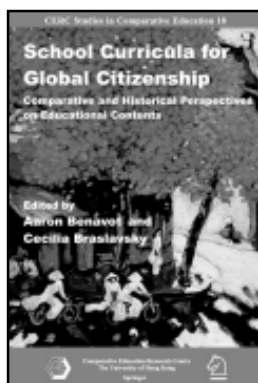


No. 17
**Portraits of
Influential Chinese
Educators**
Ruth Hayhoe

ISBN 962-8093-40-1
Publisher: CERC & Springer
Date: February 2006

No. 18
**School Curricula for
Global Citizenship
Comparative and Historical
Perspectives on
Educational Contents**
Edited by Aaron Benavot &
Cecilia Braslavsky

ISBN 962-8093-52-5
Publisher: CERC & Springer
Date: February 2006



The 6th Comparative Education Society of Asia (CESA) Biennial Conference & the 18th Comparative Education Society of Hong Kong (CESHK) Conference

8-9 January 2007

Venue

The University of Hong Kong

Host

Comparative Education Society of
Hong Kong (CESHK)

and

Comparative Education Research Centre (CERC),
Faculty of Education,
The University of Hong Kong

Organiser

Comparative Education Society of Asia (CESA)

Enquiries

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Comparative and Cultural Perspectives

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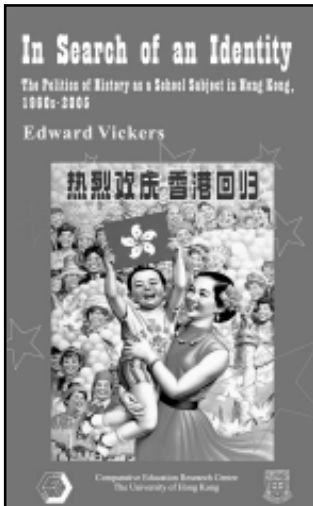
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In Search of an Identity:

The Politics of History as a School Subject in Hong Kong, 1960s-2005

By Edward Vickers

In most societies the school subject of History reflects and reinforces a sense of collective identity. However, in Hong Kong this has emphatically not been the case. Official and popular ambivalence towards 'the nation' in the shape of the People's Republic of China, and the sensitivity of Hong Kong's own political and cultural status, have meant that the question of local identity has until recently been largely sidestepped in school curricula and textbooks. In this ground-breaking study, Edward Vickers sets out to reexamine some of the myths concerning colonialism and schooling under the British, while showing how in postcolonial Hong Kong these myths have been deployed to legitimise a programme of nationalistic re-education. In a new Afterword, he emphasises that it is Hong Kong's fundamentally undemocratic political context that has thwarted - and continues to thwart - efforts to make history education a vehicle for fostering a liberal, democratic sense of regional and national citizenship.

"Since the 1960s, Hong Kong people have developed a strong sense of their own distinctiveness. This thorough study explains why the local school curriculum has failed to reflect this emerging sense of identity. Vickers shows how the pressures of political correctness have constrained curriculum developers, and undermined their attempts to make history education more relevant, stimulating and critical. His book should be read not only by specialists interested in curriculum history, but by all those who are interested in Hong Kong, and the role that education can play in shaping its future."

Christine Loh - Chief Executive Officer, Civic Exchange, Hong Kong

"*In Search of an Identity* provides a scholarly and superbly readable account of a complex episode in curriculum history in East Asia. As such, it represents a major contribution to curriculum policy studies and to the regional historiography of education and identity formation."

From the Foreword by Professor Andy Green

Edward Vickers is Lecturer in Comparative Education at the Institute of Education, University of London. This book is based on his PhD thesis at the University of Hong Kong.



香港與澳門的教育與社會： 從比較角度看延續與變化

貝磊 古鼎儀
主編

第二版

香港與澳門有眾多共同之處。兩地人口中，占主導地位的是講廣東話的華人；兩地的面積均較小；皆屬都市社會；兩地都曾是歐洲強國的殖民地；而且兩地都經歷了與中國統一的政治過渡。然而，在教育方面，由於本書分析出的種種原因，兩個地區又有很大差異。

兩地的類同與差異模式構成一種可供比較研究的絕好基礎。本書的總綱是，從比較角度看延續與變化，隨著這兩個社會向後殖民地時代過渡，這一主題尤其具有相關性。

在獲得了廣泛讚譽的初版的基礎上，本書再版進行了實質性的修訂和增補。這一研究不僅對比較教育的廣泛領域作出了貢獻，而且對本書重點論述的特定社會的研究作出了貢獻。

貝磊為香港大學講座教授、世界比較教育學會聯合會主席。古鼎儀為香港教育學院教育行政與政策系高級講師。兩位學者長期從事香港和澳門的教育研究，積累了豐富而寶貴的經驗，都活躍於比較教育學界。

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