

Presentation 1:

A view to the North: A consideration of curriculum, teaching and learning in Norway and Canada

In this presentation I provide a comparative overview of the education systems in Norway and Canada, considering early years, primary, secondary, and higher education. While education in Norway is governed by national policies and interests, the educational system in Canada is governed at the provincial/territorial level, making direct comparisons of national systems complex and challenging. For this reason my analysis will draw from national and provincial examples from across Canada. A major point of emphasis will be directed toward issues of equity, inclusion, and well-being, with a critique offered that contrasts the rhetoric of curriculum and policy with the reality of teaching and learning in schools.

Presentation 2:

Self-study of teacher education practice: Methodology and pedagogy for teacher educators and their professional learning

Self-study is a form of practitioner inquiry typically used by teacher educators to develop deep insights and understandings into the problematic and complex nature of teaching teachers. As well as being viewed as a methodology that teacher educators can use to systematically inquire into their practice, self-study is also seen as a powerful pedagogy for teacher educators' ongoing professional learning. This latter point is particularly significant given the European Commission's recent urging to better support the professional learning needs of teacher educators. In this presentation I will provide a brief historical overview of self-study as a research methodology, highlighting its key aims and characteristics. I will also examine several examples of self-study research that have demonstrated the ways it can contribute to the knowledge base of teacher education practice, with a particular focus on the ways it has led to new understanding of the transition from teaching in schools to teaching teachers in higher education. Participants will be provided with opportunities to identify potential topics they may wish to explore using self-study.