



**Development Studies Association of Ireland**

**Education Study Group**

***Opportunities for Development Related Research in Education***

**Seminar**

**Venue: Kimmage Development Studies Centre**

**Date: 26 September 2014**

**The seminar aims to discuss and identify opportunities for research projects on education in development contexts and to plan a work programme for DSA Ireland's Education Study Group.**



## **Programme**

- 9.30am Registration**
- 10am Opening Remarks: Dr. Sean Farren, Convenor, DSA Ireland Education Study Group**
- 10.10am Keynote Address: Prof. Alan Smith, Director, UNESCO Centre, University of Ulster**
- 11am Tea/Coffee Break**
- 11.30am Panel-led discussion:**  
**Prof. Linda Clarke, School of Education, University of Ulster;**  
**Jenny Hobbs, Concern Worldwide;**  
**Bronagh Carr, Irish Aid;**  
**Prof. Alan Smith, University of Ulster**
- 12pm Small Group Discussion**
- 1pm Lunch**
- 2pm Small Group Discussion**
- 2.45pm Plenary to receive reports and discuss way forward**
- 3.45pm Rapporteur: Dr Su-ming Khoo, National University Galway**



**Bronagh Carr** is a Development Specialist in the Policy Coherence and Research Unit of Irish Aid, the official aid programme of the Irish Government. She is responsible for leading the development and roll-out of Irish Aid's Research Strategy with its emphasis on building evidence on Ireland's priorities for poverty reduction, strengthening communication and policy uptake of research, and improving development research capacity within Irish Aid key partner countries. Bronagh also manages a number of national and international research partnerships, including Irish Aid's flagship *Programme of Strategic Cooperation*. She has over 15 years experience working overseas in Asia and Africa (Bangladesh, Democratic Republic of Lao, Sudan, South Sudan, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe). Bronagh has worked with Irish Aid for the past ten years including four years serving at the Irish Embassy in Zambia where she lead Ireland's engagement in the education sector.

**Prof. Linda Clarke** was born in Brooklyn, New York, moving to Northern Ireland in early childhood. She qualified as a teacher in 1983 and served as a Geography teacher and head of department for 15 years. Her Masters degree is in Education Technology and her PhD examines the use of E-learning in Teacher Education. She was appointed as a lecturer in Education at the University of Ulster in 2001 and senior lecturer in 2008, with teaching responsibilities in initial teacher education (as Course Director in PGCE Geography) and in CPD courses in the ICT pathway of the MEd. Linda chaired the 2011-12 university-wide review of Widening Access and Participation and has just taken up the role as Chair of the University BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Project.

**Prof. Alan Smith** is the UNESCO Chair in Education for Pluralism, Human Rights and Democracy at the University of Ulster, Northern Ireland. He was a British Council visiting fellow to Nigeria and Indonesia, and a visiting research fellow to the Hong Kong Institute of Education and the University of Amsterdam. A report for DFID on 'Education, Conflict and International Development' led to research for DFID, GiZ, International Alert, Save The Children, UNESCO, UNICEF and the World Bank in Bosnia, Serbia, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Burundi, Sierra Leone, Uganda and Zimbabwe. He is currently a technical advisor to the UNICEF *Peace-building, Education and Advocacy* Programme involving 14 conflict affected countries over a four-year period (2012-15).

**Jenny Hobbs** Jenny Hobbs has been in the role of Education Advisor for Concern Worldwide since 2011 and is currently based in London. She provides technical support to Concern's primary education programmes throughout Africa, Asia and the Caribbean. Her areas of focus are literacy and language foundations, education in emergencies and school-related gender-based violence. She first joined Concern in 2009 as Education Program Coordinator in Liberia. Previously she worked as a primary school teacher in Ireland, before training teachers in The Gambia and Ethiopia. A graduate of St. Patrick's College and the University of Ulster, Jenny is currently a PhD candidate in UCD focusing on language and literacy education in fragile contexts.

**Dr. Su-ming Khoo** is a Lecturer in the School of Political Science and Sociology and Vice-Dean (Internationalization) for the College of Arts, Social Sciences and Celtic Studies, at the National University of Ireland, Galway. Su-ming's research and teaching emphasize the connections between human rights and development, particularly the rights to education, food and health. Her research is focused on public goods, human development and capability approaches, alternative economics, consumer activism, public scholarship and higher education. Her two main current research projects are in higher education and global health justice. She is currently a collaborating scholar on the Ethics and Internationalization in Higher Education research project, a comparative study involving 28 project partners in 9 countries. She is also researching rights, solidarities and health reforms in complex developmental transitions.