

Call for Proposal

Infusing Learning between East and West: Enhancing Adult Education Research and Practice Exchanges

THE SEVENTH ASIAN DIASPORA PRE-CONFERENCE In Conjunction with 2014 AERC

PENN STATE, HARRISBURG
9:00am – 5:00pm on June 4, 2014

[Proposal Due March 3, 2014](#)

About the Pre-Conference

The Seventh Asian Diaspora Adult Education Pre-conference, in conjunction with 2014 Annual Adult Education Research Conference (AERC), will be held at **the Penn State Harrisburg campus** on June 4, 2014. The purpose of this pre-conference is to provide an opportunity in which scholars from both Asian ancestry (East) and the West can enhance learning about Eastern and Western perspectives on issues, concerns, and problems relevant to the adult education research and practice in the global context. This pre-conference intends to offer a forum for faculty and graduate students who are interested in researching, contributing to, and learning about East and West to present their scholarship and research.

Theme of the Pre-Conference

The theme for the Seventh Preconference is: *Infusing Learning between East and West: Enhancing Adult Education Research and Practice Exchanges.*

Seemingly, globalization has created a “world policy or world culture” (Tröhler, 2009) or has transformed the world’s culture into an increasingly standardized phenomenon. However, studies show that not all countries tend to respond to globalization or meet the needs of the competitive world economy in the same way or with the same process (Cheung & Chan, 2010). Different cultures and traditions perceive the world differently. Thus, learning from different cultures becomes essential in human history. Both East and West have commonalities and uniqueness in terms of their social cultural traditions, political, economic, and educational characteristics that contribute to their own adult education research and practice, which ideally should be shared globally. Yet, “educational research, as well as educational planning, in ‘developing world’ settings tended to be dictated by European (*Western*) perceptions of what was good for the Other” (Fox, 2007, p. 118). Unfortunately, the important aspect of *culture*, which refers to all aspects of life, including the mental, social, linguistic, and physical forms of culture, has often been overlooked (Masemann, 2007).

As a result, “by adopting western theories and practice wholesale, and applying these in the classroom without rigorous research and consideration, the potential contribution of Asian education researchers has been largely bypassed or discounted” (Nguyen, et al., 2009, p. 110). Consequently, western models have strongly influenced education in terms of what to teach, why to teach it, and even how to teach it at local and international levels, all of which contribute to the increasing issues and challenges when learning from the Other (Kubow & Fossum, 2007).

In the global context, there is a clarion call for enhancing learning between East and West. It helps us to look at both sides, meaning that “we must hear both sides, we must be able to listen to the experience of intelligent life expressed in discourses” (Milligan et al., 2011, p. 52) or we may not otherwise recognize when we are carelessly over-applying Western norms and values. Within this context, infusing learning between East and West will help create new opportunities for more authentic exchange and effective development for adult education. Thus, learning equally becomes critical for meaningful and mindful dialogues and exchanges.

If you are currently conducting research or have conducted research around the theme, you are cordially invited to submit your proposal and attend the preConference.

Proposal and Presentation Format

We are soliciting paper and presentations of two types. The first type of paper/presentation is a **scholarly paper** that draws from relevant literature and reflects on a relevant adult and continuing, and higher educational topic to the theme of the pre-conference. Examples of such papers include position papers, opinions, or literature reviews. The second is a **research paper** that reports on original empirical research on an adult educational phenomenon or practice relevant to the theme. All research methodologies are welcome (e.g., quantitative, qualitative/interpretive, mixed).

Two presentation formats may be used but not limited to: **Paper** presentations, reserved for a single paper and/or investigation), a **Panel** presentation, in which more presenters present papers on a common theme (Note: Presentation formats will be determined by the number and nature of accepted proposals, presenters' preferences, and available time).

General Information about Pre Conference

The date for the pre-conference is **June 4, 2014**. The conference will run from 9am-5pm in **PENN STATE, HARRISBURG**. The room comes with A/V equipment, a computer and Internet access. All pre-conference attendees must register online through the host institution website; which should be available soon. On-site register on the day of the pre-conference will also be available through the registration system.

The conference registration fee is \$45. All money for registration will be collected by Penn State Harrisburg. This fee includes breakfast and lunch breaks as well as transportation to and from the host hotel. Breakfast will be served at **8:30am** and lunch at **12:30pm**. A shuttle will leave the host hotel at **8:00am** to transport people to the pre-conference. It will make a return trip to the hotel at **5:30pm**.

Proposal Submission Instructions

Proposals must be received by **March 3, 2014**. Notification of decision will be sent before or by March 7, 2014.

This is a blind review process, therefore you must follow these instructions:

Your cover sheet must include the name, institutional affiliation, phone number(s), e-mail addresses of all authors, the address of the first author, the paper title, and a signed warrant statement as follows **if you want your paper published in the proceedings**:

“I warrant that if my proposal is accepted, I will submit an APA written 8-10 page (single-spaced) paper for inclusion in the Pre-conference Proceedings. I understand that if my completed paper is not submitted by April 28, 2014, my paper will not be included as part of the Asian Diaspora Adult Education Pre-Conference Proceedings”

Your one-page proposal should include:

The paper title

Purpose of the study

Research questions/position/opinions supported by literature

Methodology and Findings (if available then)

Significance/Conclusion/Discussion/ Implications

Submit your proposal to:

Chair, Asian Diaspora PreConference Committee:

Qi Sun, Ed. D

Associate Professor,

Adult and Postsecondary Education Program,

Professional Studies Department,

College of Education,

University Wyoming

qsun@uwyo.edu

Final Paper/Abstract Submission

If you want your full text paper to be included in the preconference proceedings, which will be distributed to participants at the pre conference, you must submit (up to 10 pages) your final electronic paper to qsun@uwyo.edu by **April 28, 2014**.

You may also present with an abstract to be included in the preconference proceedings (submitted by April 28 2014), but without a full text paper included in the proceedings.

Contact Qsun@uwyo.edu for further information and questions