

2008
ONTARIO EDUCATION
RESEARCH
SYMPOSIUM

“RESEARCH INTO PRACTICE; PRACTICE-LED RESEARCH”

January 31 – February 2, 2008

**Renaissance Toronto Airport Hotel
801 Dixon Road, Toronto**

PROGRAM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

- 6:00 p.m. – **REGISTRATION**
9:00 p.m. *Muskoka Ballroom Foyer*
- 7:00 p.m. – **WELCOMING RECEPTION**
9:00 p.m. *Muskoka Ballroom*

Co-sponsored by the Ontario Association of Deans of Education

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

All plenary sessions take place in the Muskoka Ballroom, with simultaneous translation available.

- 7:00 a.m. **REGISTRATION & CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**
Muskoka Ballroom Foyer
- 8:30 a.m. **INTRODUCTION**
David Fulford, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Management and Services
Division, Ontario Ministry of Education
- 8:40 a.m. **WELCOME AND OVERVIEW – CHIEF RESEARCH OFFICER**
Dr. Carol Campbell, Chief Research Officer
- 8:55 a.m. **OPENING REMARKS – ONTARIO EDUCATION RESEARCH PANEL**
Doris McWhorter and Mario Lajoie, Co-Chairs, Ontario Education Research Panel
- 9:05 a.m. **PLENARY SESSION I:**
RESEARCH INFORMING PRACTICE
Moderator: Barry Pervin, Assistant Deputy Minister (A), Instruction and
Leadership Development Division, Ontario Ministry of Education

Presentations:

- [Teachers Learning Together: The Story of Action Research at Work in Ontario's Classrooms](#)
- [Math and Literacy: Growing Accessible, Interactive, Networked Supports \(GAINS\) Regional Pilot](#)
- [Putting Research into Practice to Develop a Leadership Framework for School and System Leaders in Ontario](#)
- [Leading Student Achievement: Our Principal Purpose](#)

10:30 a.m. **Break (participants move to workshops)**

10:45 a.m. **BREAKOUT SESSION 'A'**

Participants break into workshops to discuss Research Informing Practice.

All workshops will focus on a common set of facilitated questions, with facilitators and recorders at each table. Input from the workshops will be synthesized, summarized and presented at the Saturday morning plenary session.

11:45 a.m. **Break (participants return to plenary)**

12:15 p.m. **Buffet Lunch**

1:00 p.m. [UPDATE ON ONTARIO EDUCATION RESEARCH STRATEGY](#)

Dr. Carol Campbell, Chief Research Officer

1:30 p.m. **PLENARY SESSION II:**

RESEARCH USING DATA TO SUPPORT STUDENTS' ACHIEVEMENT

Moderator: Dr. Avis Glaze, Chief Student Achievement Officer and CEO, Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, Ontario Ministry of Education

Presentations:

- [Research Using Data to Support Students' Achievement in French-Language Schools \(in French only\)](#)
- [Statistical Neighbours](#)
- [Managing Information for Student Achievement \(MISA\): A Project from the Barrie Region Professional Network Centre](#)

2:30 p.m. **Break (participants move to workshops)**

2:45 p.m. **BREAKOUT SESSION 'B'**

Participants break into workshops to discuss Research Using Data to Support Students' Achievement.

All workshops will focus on a common set of facilitated questions, with facilitators and recorders at each table. Input from the workshops will be synthesized, summarized and presented at the Saturday morning plenary session.

3:45 p.m. **Break (participants return to plenary)**

4:00 p.m. **PLENARY SESSION III:**
EVALUATION OF POLICY AND PROGRAM INITIATIVES
Moderator: George Zegarac, Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Planning and Elementary/Secondary Programs Division, Ontario Ministry of Education

Panel discussion, followed by audience Questions & Answers.

Using examples from their work, the 4-person panel of eminent researchers will address:

- *How evaluation can be used to support improvements in policy and/or practice;*
- *What are effective evaluation methods/ approaches for supporting evidence to inform educational improvement;*
- *What barriers are encountered and how can these be overcome; and*
- *What examples of the appropriate use of evaluation in collaboration between researchers, educators and/or policy makers can be drawn on and learned from.*

- [Charles Ungerleider](#), Canadian Council on Learning
- [Don Jamieson](#), Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network
- [Louis Volante](#), Brock University
- [Serge Demers](#), Laurentian University (*in French only*)

5:00 p.m. **Break**

5:45 p.m. **DINNER**

- [Keynote Speaker:](#)

Professor Louise Stoll, Institute of Education, University of London

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

7:30 a.m. **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**
Muskoka Ballroom Foyer

8:30 a.m. **DAY 2 INTRODUCTION: OUTLINE OF DAY'S ACTIVITIES**
David Fulford, Assistant Deputy Minister, Corporate Management and Services Division, Ontario Ministry of Education

8:35 a.m. **PLENARY SESSION IV:**
SUMMARY OF WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS
Doris McWhorter and Mario Lajoie, Co-Chairs, Ontario Education Research Panel

9:00 a.m. ***Break (participants move to breakout rooms)***

9:10 a.m. **“STORE FRONT” SESSION:**
PARTNERSHIPS

This session will showcase a variety of research-to-practice partnerships related to improving student achievement, reducing gaps in achievement, and increasing public confidence in education.

The Ontario Education Research Panel (OERP) has identified a variety of successful partnerships which will be showcased in “Store Front” sessions in different breakout rooms. Each session will feature a presentation by the researcher, followed by free-flowing discussion among the participants.

The intent is to foster and support collaborative relationships, showcase examples, and engage the education community in identifying opportunities for collaboration.

Each 40 minute session will be repeated so participants will have the opportunity to attend two sessions.

Topic/ room:

- **Early Childhood Education – MacIntosh I**
- **Northern Ontario Education Leadership (NOEL) – Macintosh II**
- **The Learning Consortium OISE/UT – Golden Delicious**
- **Parenting Circles – Algonquin**
- **Principal Mentoring Project – Niagara**
- **Roots of Empathy – Collingwood**
- **Increasing Research Capacity and Collaboration within the French Language Community with a Researcher in Residence Program – (in French only) Northern Spy**
- **The Talking Back Project – Ambrosia I**
- **Impact Analyses of Elementary Teachers’ Federation of Ontario (ETFO) Professional Development Programs – Haliburton**

9:50 a.m. **Participants move to 2nd “Store Front” Session**

10:00 a.m. **“STORE FRONT” SESSION 2**

10:40 a.m. **Break (participants move to regional workshops)**

10:50 a.m. **REGIONAL WORKSHOPS**

Participants break into workshops assigned by geographical area.

Region/ room:

- **BARRIE REGION – MacIntosh I**
- **OTTAWA REGION – Collingwood**
- **LONDON REGION – Niagara**
- **TORONTO REGION – Algonquin**
- **SUDBURY/NORTH BAY REGION – Haliburton**
- **THUNDER BAY REGION – Golden Delicious**
- **FRENCH-LANGUAGE BOARDS – Northern Spy**
- **PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATIONS – MacIntosh II**
- **MINISTRY OF EDUCATION – Ambrosia I**

All workshops will focus on a common set of facilitated questions, with facilitators and recorders at each table.

11:45 a.m. **Break (participants return to plenary)**

12:00 p.m. **FINAL PLENARY:**
[WRAP-UP AND CLOSING REMARKS](#)
Dr. Carol Campbell, Chief Research Officer

12:15 p.m. **Buffet Lunch**