

Living Educational Theory Research: Evaluating educational influences in learning

Presentation at the 2023 SY.N.TH.E.SI. Conference

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2023 SY.N.TH.E.S.I. Conference on:
Evaluation of the Educator

- The Transnational, Interdisciplinary Community SY.N.TH.E.S.I.: The Circle of Inventive Educators, in the context of a continuous effort to highlight education as an important institution for the social, cultural and economic development of the country, organizes an International Scientific Conference in Athens on Saturday September 30, 2023 at the Antonis Tritsis auditorium, Akadimias 50.
- A key purpose of the conference is the analysis and critical approach of all dimensions or 'principles', overt and hidden, related to a critical issue that concerns not only the educational world but also the wider society for the evaluation of educational work, but also the essential evaluation of the work of teachers of all levels and not only of Primary and Secondary Education teachers. This includes the teachers' evaluations in their valid, evidence and values-based explanations of their educational influences in their own learning and in the learning of others.
- A second objective is directly related to the reflection on the issue of the feasibility served by the evaluation as it is introduced in our country, as well as to the actors involved in this process. A counterproposal for the assessment will be presented at the conference with the goal of development and improvement.

Abstract on the programme

Living Educational Theory Research: Evaluating educational influences in learning

- Whitehead and Huxtable recognise that there are different professional requirements in education in different countries and cultural contexts. For example Greece requires a degree whilst Finland requires a masters degree. The view of professionalism in this presentation makes a distinction between being a member of a profession and being professional. Being a member of a profession requires meeting the criteria for membership of a professional organisation. Being professional requires the practitioner engage in a programme of continual professional development grounded in a question that an educator could use Living Educational Theory Research to answer, for example, 'How do I enhance my educational influence in the learning of my students?'. It requires a research approach to such questions in which the individual professional generates valid, evidence and valuesladen explanations of educational influences in their own learning, in the learning of others and in the learning of social formations that form the context of their practice. This approach requires the teacher-researcher to evaluate their educational influences. The process of evaluation includes clarifying and communicating the meanings of the values the teacher uses to distinguish the learning as educational.
- Whitehead and Huxtable will introduce the participants to the narratives of teacherresearchers who have evaluated their educational influences in learning in their masters' professional development programmes at:
<https://www.actionresearch.net/writings/mastermod.shtml>
- Using ZOOM they will bring into the presentation teachers who have researched and evaluated their educational influences in the learning of their primary and secondary school pupils and higher education students. This will include practitioner-researchers from India, Nepal, Canada, the UK, South Africa and the USA. Participants will be encouraged to create and share their own living-posters to add to the homepage at:
<https://www.actionresearch.net/writings/posters/homepage2023.pdf>
- The presentation will locate professionalism in education, and the evaluation of educational influences in learning, within the global contexts of the International Professional Development Association (IPDA), the Academic Network of Global Education and Learning (<https://angel-network.net/>) and the Global Education in Europe (GEIE) Dublin Declaration (<https://www.gene.eu/ge2050-congress>).

Introduction

SY.N.TH.E.SI. (<https://synthesi.mysch.gr/indexEn.php>) - making a dream of a liberating education a reality.

- Education as a values-laden activity of learning life-long and life-wide to live humanely a personally satisfying and socially productive and worthwhile life and helping others to do so too.
- **What is your dream as a professional practitioner of a liberating education?**

A professional practitioner

- A professional practitioner engages in a programme of continual professional development, which includes researching their practice to:
 - improve it,
 - evaluate it,
 - generate and test the validity of their accounts for their educational influences in learning (their living-educational-theories)
 - contribute the knowledge they create to the growth of global knowledge.

Narratives of teacher researchers

- Examples of professional development programmes at Masters level and doctoral level on <https://actionresearch.net/>
 - Illustrating what a professional practitioner needs to do to evaluate their educational influences in learning. The process of evaluation includes clarifying and communicating the meanings of the values the teacher uses to distinguish their influences in learning as educational
 - Data collection
 - Analysis
 - Validating knowledge claims
- Invite participants on ZOOM to share their professional development

Professional practitioners adopting a Living Educational Theory Research approach to their professional development

Locate professionalism in education, and the evaluation of educational influences in learning, within the global contexts of , for example:

- The International Professional Development Association (IPDA) <https://ipda.org.uk/>
- The Academic Network of Global Education and Learning (<https://angel-network.net/>)
- The Global Education in Europe (GEIE) Dublin Declaration (<https://www.gene.eu/ge2050-congress>)
- The International Conferences on Transformative Education Research and Sustainable Development <https://tersd2022.kusoed.edu.np/>

Global network of professional practitioners

- Examples of professional practitioners engaged in professional development grounded in a question that an educator has used Living Educational Theory Research to answer, for example, 'How do I enhance my educational influence in the learning of my students?' <https://www.actionresearch.net/writings/posters/homepage2023.pdf>
- **Create, share and update your own living-poster to contribute to a Greek group page and get your Living Educational Theory Research professional development underway.**