

**Visiting Scholar Report
Dr. Gloria Swindler Boutte
November 15-21, 2007**

I extend my gratitude for being invited as a Visiting Scholar for the *Centre for Equity and Innovation in Early Childhood (CEIEC)*'s annual conference at the University of Melbourne. The experience provided me a chance to network with international colleagues and to present my work to postgraduate students in Early Childhood Education at the University of Melbourne. The activities and outcomes of my visit are presented below.

I. Presentations

November 16-- Keynote presentation, *Beyond the Illusion of Diversity: Imagining Infinite Possibilities of Humanity and Creating and Sustaining Legacies of Love*

November 19--Postgraduate seminar, *Critical Literacy: Images, Ideologies, and Legitimate Knowledge*

II. Conference Sessions Attended

1. November 15-- Chris Sarra - *Transforming Aboriginal Identity through Transforming Mindsets*

Outcomes: More thorough understanding of issues faced by indigenous people and the relationship of these issues to people in the African Diaspora. The information presented in the keynote address will be studied further and integrated into my scholarship.

2. November 16--Olive Knight, Liz Thomas Lecturer, Vicki Hynam and Heather Lawrence, *Transforming Possibilities and Connections through shared understandings of culture, language and identity.*

Outcomes: Networking with Olive Knight, Coordinator Kurungal Council Inc. Will seek grant funds to further study the work that Olive is doing with indigenous women.

3. November 16--George Lee Johnson, *No One Can Make You Feel Inferior Without Your Support? Examining Systems of Inequity In Classrooms & Schools*

Outcome: Will collaborate with George Johnson on the developing his presentation into a manuscript to be submitted for publication consideration in a refereed journal.

III. Other Outcomes

1. Several informal meetings with Beth Blue Swadener, Arizona State University, Phoenix, Arizona U.S.A. While I was familiar with some of Beth's work, the CEIEC conference provided me with the opportunity to learn more about her scholarship. Additionally, future collaboration is likely as a result of this meeting. Because of the global and comprehensive nature of Beth's and CEIEC's work, I have recommended Dr. Swadener and Dr. Glenda McNaughton as Visiting Scholars to the University of South Carolina. The work that CEIEC does (as well as Beth's work) is forward-thinking and revolutionary on behalf of equity for young children around the globe.
2. November 19--Karina Davis arranged for a visit and observation at the Fitzroy Community School which is an alternative primary school. I had the opportunity to tour the school and speak with students and some of the school's faculty and staff.

Outcomes: Photo documentation and informal interviews with children at the school were done. This information was used for a powerpoint presentation and the philosophy of the school was shared in an Early Childhood Education curriculum course at the University of South Carolina.