

Research Directions

Office of Research Services

Globalisation and Teacher Movements

Dr Carol Reid and Professor Michael Singh from the School of Education along with economics scholar Professor Jock Collins from University of Technology Sydney are exploring globalisation and multi-cultural factors in Australian education through an Australian Research Council Linkage grant.



‘Education underpins a cohesive and successful society, but today education is increasingly globalised’ says Dr Reid. ‘One of the features of contemporary global society is the increasing “brain circulation” of professionals.’ This project seeks to investigate with education partners the global circulation of teachers into and out of Australia, in order to better understand the experiences of immigrant and emigrant teachers in multi-cultural Australia.

In collaboration with education-related government departments, employment organisations and unions in NSW, WA and SA, researchers will explore the experiences of immigrant teachers in Australia and returned Australian teachers who have worked overseas. Through surveys, focus groups and in-depth interviews with metropolitan, regional and rural teachers in each state, the research will identify the key drivers of teachers’ decisions to come to Australia, work overseas, or return to work in Australia after overseas teaching or training.

The study will produce a comprehensive national picture of the personal and institutional dynamics underlying the movement of teachers into and out of Australia. It will result in a refining of Australia’s qualification recognition and teacher recruitment policies and procedures and give Australia’s education industry some tools to address the issue of the loss of valuable teachers to overseas environments, and improve Australia’s competitiveness in attracting skilled overseas teachers.

Project Title: Globalisation and Teacher Movements into and out of multicultural Australia.

Funding has been set at: \$107,437 from ARC; \$171,237 support from partners, over two years.

Partner Organisations: NSW Teachers Federation; NSW Department of Education and Training; WA Department of Education and Training; SA Department of Education and Community Services; The Australian Education Union.

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