

The Use of Narrative Inquiry in Educational Research

Professor Phil Benson
Professor of Applied Linguistics
Macquarie University

November 21, 2017 (Tuesday)

14:00 – 16:00

Room 401 – 402, Meng Wah Complex, HKU

Chair: Dr Chun Lai

Abstract:

Narrative inquiry has a long history in education, primarily in research on teachers' lives and careers. The main contribution of applied linguistics has been to extend this approach to learners' lives and careers. Participants in this workshop will be invited to discuss how they are using narrative inquiry in the research, or how their research could be enhanced by the use of narrative inquiry. Following a brief introduction to the use of narrative methods in educational research, the workshop will cover a number of practical and methodological issues: (1) careers, phases of careers, and critical incidents as units of analysis; (2) innovations in data collection and analysis; and (3) the use of narrative inquiry in mixed methods research.

Benson, P. (2014). Narrative inquiry in applied linguistics research. Annual Review of Applied Linguistics Research, 34, 154-170.

About the speaker:

Phil Benson is Professor of Applied Linguistics and member of the Multilingualism Research Group at Macquarie University. He has taught English as a foreign language in North Africa, the Middle East, Malaysia, and Japan and applied linguistics in Hong Kong and Malaysia. His main research interests are in the area of multilingualism and include informal language learning beyond the classroom, language learning environments and the language experiences of migrants and international students. His preferred research methods are qualitative and he is especially interested in narrative inquiry and mapping as approaches to language learning research. He is the author of *Teaching and Researching Autonomy in Language Learning* (Pearson, 2011), co-author of *Narrative Inquiry in Language teaching and Learning Research* (Routledge, 2013), and co-editor of *Beyond the Language Classroom* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2011) and a forthcoming volume, *The Multilingual City: Sydney Case Studies* (Routledge).



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