



Diversity and Citizenship Education in Multicultural Nations

James A. Banks

Kerry and Linda Killinger Endowed Chair in Diversity Studies
University of Washington, Seattle, USA

November 6, 2018 (Tuesday)

17:30 - 19:00

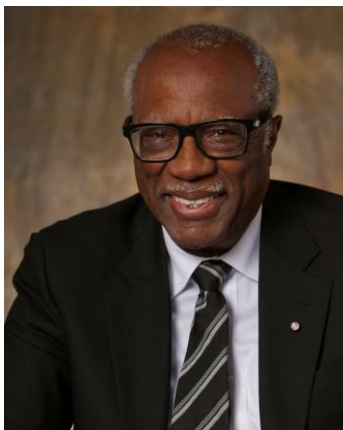
Room 205, Runme Shaw Building, HKU

(Chair: Professor Gerard A. Postiglione)

Abstract

Immigration is increasing racial, ethnic, cultural, linguistic, and religious diversity in nations around the world, which is challenging existing concepts of citizenship and citizenship education. In this presentation, I will argue that nation-states need to construct novel ideas about citizenship and citizenship education that accommodate new population groups but also foster national unity. Multicultural nation-states need to balance unity and diversity. I describe the challenges to citizenship caused by diversity and argue that citizenship education should be transformed and help students to develop reflective cultural, national, regional, and global identifications and a commitment to take civic action that will make their communities, nation, and the world more democratic and cosmopolitan.

About the speaker



James A. Banks holds the Kerry and Linda Killinger Endowed Chair in Diversity Studies at the University of Washington, Seattle. He is a past president of the American Educational Research Association and of the National Council for the Social Studies. He is a member of the National Academy of Education and a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association. Professor Banks is a specialist in social studies education and multicultural education and has written widely in these fields. His books include *Cultural Diversity and Education: Foundations, Curriculum, and Teaching*; and *Educating Citizens in a Multicultural Society*. His edited books include *The Encyclopedia of Diversity in Education* and *Citizenship Education and Global Migration: Implications for Theory, Research, and Practice*. Books by Professor Banks have been translated into Greek, Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and Turkish. A video archive and interview of Professor Banks appears on “Inside the Academy” at

<http://insidetheacademy.asu.edu/james-banks>.

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