Research teaching and learning in Lithuania: Transcending historical, epistemological, and linguistic challenges in creating opportunities for learning

Speakers: Audra Skukauskaitė, Liudmila Rupšienė, Ingrida Baranauskienė

Date: November 19, 2018 (Monday)
Time: 12:45 – 14:00
Venue: Room 205, Runme Shaw Building, HKU
Chair: Dr Susan Bridges

Abstract:
In the almost three decades since regaining independence from the soviet union, Lithuania has made great strides in research methodology teaching and learning. While positivistic and post-positivistic research had a solid foundation stemming from the soviet science, qualitative research was almost unheard of until about 2000s and ethnography has been associated mainly with folk studies until a few years ago. Drawing on our individual and collective intellectual histories and a research project that professors Skukauskaite and Rupsiene have been conducting in Lithuania with graduate students and faculty engaged in learning and teaching research, in this presentation we will share the developments of research methodology in Lithuanian educational and social sciences. The focus is on the learning of qualitative and ethnographic research since these approaches are new in the country and thus provide a telling case of the multiple layers of contexts that influence developments in research opportunities in Lithuanian doctoral education. Overview of the historical context will serve as an anchor for examining the challenges and opportunities Lithuanian professors and students encounter as they seek to engage in qualitative or ethnographic research and attempt to publish internationally. In sharing our stories and research evidence from one project, we also make visible the pathways that brought us to the project on “Researching Specialist Training to Provide Holistic Help to People with Disabilities in the Health Care System while Improving Researcher Competencies” and this project’s support of our journey to the University of Hong Kong to learn with and from people engaged in innovative research in education and health sciences.

About the speakers:
Audra Skukauskaitė is a Professor of Educational Research and a research consultant for national and international clients. She has been teaching research design and qualitative research methodology for the past 13 years. Her research interests include research learning, transparency in research design and methodology, developments and issues in qualitative research, as well as faculty and student learning of research. She has published articles and chapters on transcribing, video and textual analysis, ethnography, qualitative interviewing, analysis of research, and research epistemologies as well as work on the impact of educational policies on teachers. She has taught seminars on ethnography, interviewing, discourse analysis, narrative analysis, qualitative research, action research, and writing for publication.

Liudmila Rupšienė is a professor and senior researcher at Klaipeda University. The main scientific interest is research methodology. She is author of a number of books with three of them focusing on research methodology: Methodology of Qualitative Research Data Collection (2007), Methodology of Qualitative Research (2008), Educational Experiment (2016). She published more than 100 scientific articles, made around 100 presentations in scientific conferences in Lithuania and abroad (Latvia, Poland, Spain, Denmark, Russia, USA and many other countries).

Ingrida Baranauskienė is a professor of Education and head researcher at the Faculty of Health Sciences of Klaipėda University (Lithuania). For over ten years, Ingrida has been the dean of the Faculty of Social Welfare and Disability Studies of Šiauliai University. The field of her scientific interests: preconditions for success in social participation of people with disabilities. She is a co-author of two monographs on participation of people with disabilities in the labour market, an initiator of five scientific studies presenting research on social exclusion. She is an author of many scientific articles on disability research.

~ ALL ARE WELCOME ~
For enquiries, please contact the Office of Research at 3917 8254.