



知識薈萃:「香港教育與未來學習」創新程
“Hong Kong Education and Future Learning” Knowledge Fair -
Let's Make an Impact Together, Saturday 4 March 2023



Faculty of **Education**
The University of Hong Kong

Opening Remarks

教育知識的真義是甚麼?
What is educational knowledge?



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Gerard
Delanty
(1998: 22)

- Universities must recapture **a sense of public commitment**. To achieve this they must re-orientate themselves more to the communities in which they exist and to recognize that the university does not monopolize the field of knowledge.
- The university is **an institution of the public sphere**; it is not above civil society but a part of its cultural tradition, in particular it is a part of the public sphere and its tradition of debate and reflection.
- The future of **the university is best guaranteed when it can establish strong links with the public culture** providing the public with enlightenment about the mechanism of power and seeking alternative forms of social organization.



Features of Education as an Academic Field - I

- As a complex human endeavour, education aims ultimately at enhancing students' cognitive, civic, and social learning and development.
- Education occurs in school classrooms, private homes, museums, community centres and through information accessible on the Web.
- Even formal schooling varies in profound ways from community to community, and from pre-schoolers to adults.
- The variability and complexity of education is mirrored by the practice of education.
- Educators draw on, and are influenced by, practical wisdom, professional relationships, and values, as well as scientifically grounded theory and fact.



Features of Education as an Academic Field - II

- Education is centrally concerned with people: learners, teachers, parents, citizens, and policy makers.
- It is a field in which values appropriately play a central role.
- What people hope to attain in education is intimately connected with people's views about individual human potential, their hopes and expectations of what society can become, and their ideas about how social problems can be alleviated.
- Social ideals inevitably and properly influence the education system and in turn, the research that is carried out.
- Values are deeply embedded in education in many different and significant ways.



Education Research as an Applied Field

- Education research aims fundamentally at bringing theoretical understanding to practical problem-solving.
- Education research serves to add to fundamental understanding of education and to inform practical decision-making.
- Education researchers are required to understand educational practice and policy.
- Aiming to aid educational practice, decision-making, and policy, education research has an action orientation.
- Education research is influenced by the unique configuration of characteristic features of the educational enterprise.



Features of Education Research

- In education research, the investigator is recognised as an “engaged participant observer,” involved with the experience and action of those observed.
- In such “naturalistic research paradigms”, investigators do not seek to distance themselves from research participants, but rather to immerse themselves in the participants’ lives, with conscious attention to how the investigator affects and contributes to the research process.
- Such strategies were developed to allow the researcher to observe, analyse, and integrate into the research process unexpected, constantly changing, and other potentially influential aspects of what is being studied.



Our Values and Commitments

- A globally-acclaimed faculty of education also needs to be locally committed.
- We attach great significance to local engagement.
- We will never weasel out of our social obligations.
- We hope to be a vital nexus between (global) theory and (local) practice.
- We aim at both theoretical breakthroughs and practical significance, as demonstrated by today's activities.
- Believing that teachers and principals are also researchers and policy-makers, we are keen to work closely with local schools to make a difference.



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Thank You!

謝謝!