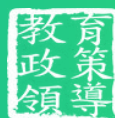




香港教育大學
The Education University
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Faculty of Education
and Human Development
教育及人類發展學院



Department of Education Policy
and Leadership
教育政策與領導學系



Professional Partnership Networker

News Update | Latest Events | Engagements

vol. OCT 2025

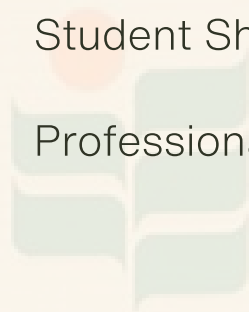


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Dear Community and Friends,

As we welcome the crisp days of October and the fresh energy of a new school year, we hope this edition of the Professional Partnership Networker Newsletter finds you thriving and ready to savor the warmth of the Mid-Autumn Festival. It's a time for reflection, connection, and new beginnings, and we're delighted to share some exciting developments with you.

We are pleased to announce that the Department of Education Policy and Leadership (EPL) with the Department of International Education (IE) with effect from 1 September 2025. The merger is in line with the strategic direction of the University, which would strengthen the capacity of EPL to build its reputation further with respect to policy studies in education and critical policy sociology, professional teaching standards and international schooling.

As a result of this merger, you'll meet some new faces in this newsletter—dedicated professionals bringing fresh insights and energy to our shared mission. We invite you to dive into the articles ahead, which highlight emerging trends, success stories, and opportunities for partnership.

Thank you for being an integral part of our network. Here's to a season of growth, collaboration, and moonlit celebrations!

Warm regards,
The EPL Team

Exploring Leadership and Community Engagement: EdUHK Australia Study Tour 2025



Group photo with Prof Darren Bryant, Curtin University

From July 27 to August 8, 2025, 18 students and teachers from our department participated in the CLOC course “Learning beyond Classroom: Being a Proactive Leader in the Globe” through a study tour to Western Australia, co-organized with Curtin University. The program aimed to develop students’ critical thinking, intercultural competence, and leadership skills through both academic and community-based experiences.

Upon arrival in Perth, participants were welcomed by Curtin University and engaged in academic workshops with the School of Education. Professor Darren Bryant encouraged students to critically compare Western Australia’s unique social, economic, and cultural landscape with that of Hong Kong, fostering deeper understanding of local challenges and opportunities. Dr. Luke Webster’s session highlighted the importance of community engagement in education, while the Professional Experience Team introduced innovative approaches to teacher training and support. These interactive workshops broadened students’ academic horizons and sparked meaningful discussions on leadership and educational futures.

Beyond the classroom, students explored Western Australia’s culture and community through field visits. Highlights included Fremantle Prison, where they reflected on human rights and justice; Perth Zoo and Pinnacle Desert, offering insights into environmental education; and Scitech, where students learned about science engagement’s role in empowering communities. A visit to Rottnest Island deepened their appreciation for sustainability and environmental preservation. Interactions with local residents and Curtin students further enriched their understanding of indigenous cultures and social diversity.

The tour culminated in group projects where students tackled real social issues—such as mental health, discrimination, city branding, and homelessness—by presenting analyses and proposing innovative solutions. Through comparison with Hong Kong, students enhanced their global perspectives and sense of responsibility as future leaders. This transformative experience not only broadened their worldview but also inspired them to actively contribute to their communities.



Gift Presentation with Curtin University
Left: Prof Darren Bryant, Curtin University,
Right: Mr Martin Lam, Lecturer I

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Visit of Dr Dong Nguyen, Durham University, UK



Highlights during the Seminar

From 21-22 August, the Department of Education Policy and Leadership and The Joseph Lau Luen Hung Charitable Trust Asia Pacific Centre for Leadership and Change were honoured to co-host Dr Dong Nguyen, an Associate Professor in Educational Leadership and Change at Durham University, UK. He has around 15 years of international professional experience across many education systems.

During his visit, Dr Nguyen delivered two seminars for EdUHK staff and students. The first session moderated with Prof Sedat Gumus, titled “What can leaders do to retain teaching talents in their schools?”, shared some evidence-informed insights into why and how to maximise teacher feelings of being professionally autonomous, developmental and listened; and the second session moderated by Dr Soobin Choi, themed “How to publish in International Journals: Tips for doctoral students and junior researchers”, gave some tips and strategies for young researchers when they publish a paper. Dr Nguyen also provided individual consultations to several PhD students and post-doctoral researchers.

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Dr Nguyen for his invaluable contribution during the visit. We look forward to future collaborations.



Gift Presentation

Left: Prof Sedat Gümüş, Associate Head (Internationalisation and Community Engagement)
Right: Dr Dong Nguyen, Durham University

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EPL Hosts UTokyo Scholar Dr Michael Facius for an Insightful Week of Higher Education and AI Events



Dr Hayes Tang, Associate Head (Quality Assurance and Enhancement) of EPL, presented a souvenir to Dr Michael Facius

From August 25–29, 2025, the Department of Education Policy and Leadership was privileged to host Dr Michael Facius, Associate Professor at Tokyo College, The University of Tokyo. Dr Facius, an active scholar specialising in global knowledge systems, the history of knowledge, and the future of humanities, brought his expertise to a series of engaging and thought-provoking events. As a seasoned educator in international, interdisciplinary, and innovative programmes, Dr Facius enriched the EdUHK community with his forward-thinking insights.

Over the course of the week, approximately 90 participants, including EdUHK academics, students, and practitioners from the broader education field, actively participated in a dynamic lineup of workshops and seminars. Exploring the transformative role of artificial intelligence (AI) in education and research, fostering meaningful dialogue and collaboration, Dr. Facius delivered a series of impactful sessions tailored to diverse audiences:

- **“Dancing with AI: Reflecting Together on Pedagogy and Student Ownership for the New Semester”**

This seminar brought together EdUHK academics and teachers to engage in a reflective session which explored innovative strategies of integrating AI into pedagogy while empowering student ownership of learning.

- **“Good Practices in AI-Powered Research at Postgraduate Levels: New Possibilities and Risks”**

This session equipped researchers and research postgraduate students with practical strategies to leverage AI in their work while addressing critical ethical considerations, fostering responsible and innovative research practices.

- **“The Art of Living in the Age of AI: Future Imaginaries Workshop” (2 sequential sessions)**

Designed for undergraduate and taught postgraduate students, this interactive workshop guided the participants to engage in scenario thinking, and envisage the future of living and working in an AI-driven world, sparking creative and critical thinking.

A Week of Inspiration and Collaboration

The events provided a platform for meaningful exchange, enabling participants to explore the new possibilities, concerns, and challenges of AI in higher education. Dr Facius’ expertise and engaging delivery left a lasting impression, inspiring attendees to rethink their approaches to teaching, learning, research, and future imaginaries.

The Department of Education Policy and Leadership extends its heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Michael Facius for his invaluable contributions and for sharing his expertise with our community. We are excited about the prospect of future collaborations and the continued exploration of practices for innovative higher education.

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EdUHK Delegation Embarks on Academic and Cultural Exchange at Shandong University of Finance and Economics



From May 12 to 18, 2025, a delegation from The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK) participated in a seven-day academic and cultural exchange with Shandong University of Finance and Economics (SDUFE). This inaugural face-to-face exchange, following their formal partnership established in 2024, aimed to deepen collaboration, promote resource sharing, and foster mutual understanding between the two institutions. The visit began with a warm welcome at Jinan Yaoqiang International Airport and a banquet hosted by SDUFE, setting a friendly tone for the week's activities. The opening ceremony at SDUFE's Yanshan Campus featured speeches from university leaders, supportive video messages, and symbolic gift exchanges, highlighting the enduring friendship between the universities.

During the campus visit to SDUFE's Zhangqiu Campus, the delegation participated in a lecture on Public Governance and Non-Profit Organization Management, engaging in lively discussions about China's governance landscape. Students from both sides interacted through music performances, gift exchanges, and cultural conversations, fostering friendship and mutual respect. Following the academic activities, the delegation traveled to Qufu, the birthplace of Confucianism, where they visited the Temple of Confucius, Confucius Family Mansion, and Confucius Forest, experiencing China's profound cultural and philosophical heritage firsthand. The group also ascended Mount Tai, contemplating the mountain's symbolic significance in Chinese history and culture.

On May 16, Professor Yang Zhiheng delivered a keynote on regional governance and development in Shandong, emphasizing innovative policies and sustainable growth. The closing ceremony was attended by senior officials, who emphasized the importance of cultural ties and pledged continued support for future collaborations. The delegation also visited the Shandong Museum, Baotu Spring, and Daming Lake, deepening their appreciation of the region's history and natural beauty. The exchange concluded with heartfelt farewells, having strengthened institutional bonds, enhanced cultural understanding, and fostered youth connections, contributing to the shared goal of nurturing globally-minded talents rooted in national identity.



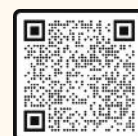
Part 1

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Part 2

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Enriching Trip: Exploring Values and Moral Education in Guangzhou



A group of undergraduate students, led by Dr. Cheng Tak Lai, embarked on an enlightening study tour to Guangzhou, themed "Values and Moral Education in the Greater Bay Area."

The journey commenced with visits to several esteemed educational institutions, including Guangzhou Foreign Language School (廣州外國語學校), Guangzhou Secondary School of Labor and Technology (廣州市中學生勞動技術學校), and South China Normal University (華南師範大學). Additionally, students participated in local courses such as farming and outdoor cooking activities. These hands-on sessions enabled them to recognize and appreciate how values education can be practically applied in everyday life.

The study tour concluded with a visit to Canton Tower, the tallest sightseeing tower in China and the third tallest in the world. At this magnificent landmark, students not only marveled at the rapid development of the Greater Bay Area but also took the opportunity to reflect on and share their experiences from the trip.

Overall, the trip was an unforgettable and profound learning experience for all participants. Exposure to diverse educational practices offered students new perspectives and invaluable insights, making it a memorable chapter in their lifelong learning journey.

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If there is anything you don't understand or want to improve on



Proactive BSc(EM) students using Student Learning Grant to help school fellows have good adaptation and preparation for FYP and Internship

Two benevolent students named Ms. Wong Sze Wai, Cecilia, and Ms. KONG Ho Yiu, Joey under Dr. Percy Kwok's supervision led the Student Learning Grant (SLG), a grant which encouraged to start student-led projects that build upon the knowledge gained from the courses provided by the Faculty.

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EdUHK Delegation Participates in the Asia Pacific Democratic Education Conference (APDEC 2025) in Indonesia

During the APDEC 2025 Study Tour in Indonesia, students engaged in enriching experiences on 23 July by visiting Junior High School 3 Gunung Sindur and Erudio Indonesia. These schools showcased inclusive environments, student-led decision-making, and democratic values through active participation in councils, discussions, and initiatives, fostering critical thinking and civic engagement.

Throughout the tour, students participated in academic conferences, exchanging ideas with international peers, which broadened their perspectives on education and culture, enhancing global awareness and responsible citizenship.

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Prof Sedat Gümüş Receives Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award

Prof Sedat Gümüş, Professor in the Department of Education Policy and Leadership (EPL) and the Director of The Joseph Lau Luen Hung Charitable Trust Asia Pacific Centre for Leadership and Change (APCLC) at The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK), has been awarded the prestigious Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel Research Award for 2025 in recognition of his research and academic achievements.

Prof Gümüş joined the Department of Education Policy and Leadership in 2021. Before joining EdUHK, he served as an Associate Professor at Aarhus University in Denmark. Prof. Gümüş has researched school leadership practices and models in various contexts.

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Germany grants up to 20 Bessel awards, named after the renowned German astronomer and mathematician Friedrich Wilhelm Bessel (1784–1846), each year to internationally renowned academics. Prof. Gumus has been one of the few education researchers to receive this distinguished honor to date.

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Dr Chrysa Keung receives President's Award for Outstanding Performance in Research and Teaching 2024/25

The Department of Education Policy and Leadership would like to extend congratulations to Dr Chrysa Keung in awarding the “President’s Award for Outstanding Performance in Research 2024/25 (Outstanding Early Career Research Award) and Outstanding Performance in Teaching (Early Career Faculty Member Category)”.

The President's Award for Outstanding Performance in Research was established to honour research achievement by academic staff as individuals or on teams. We wholeheartedly commend Dr Keung for her unwavering commitment to strive for research excellence and leadership.

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4 Scholars Awarded General Research Fund (GRF) 2025/26

The Research Grants Council has announced the results for the 2025/26 General Research Fund (GRF), Early Career Scheme (ECS), and Humanities and Social Sciences Prestigious Fellowship Scheme (HSSPFS).

The Department of Education Policy and Leadership is delighted to announce that 4 of our scholars, Prof Chen Junjun, Dr Trevor Lee, Dr Miron Bhowmik, and Dr Yusuf Oldac, have been awarded General Research Fund (GRF) 2025/26 from the University Grant Committee of Hong Kong (UGC).

List:

Prof Chen Junjun

Project Title: Leading for the Future: Drivers, Measure, and Outcomes of Principal System Leadership (Co-

Investigators: Prof Sedat Gumus, Prof David Gurr, Prof Allan Walker)

Dr Trevor Lee

Project Title: Leading with Limited Resources: The Agency and Support Systems of Grassroots Parent Leaders

Co-Investigators: Dr Max Antony-Newman, Prof Qian Haiyan, Dr Bethany Wilinski

Dr Miron Bhowmik

Project Title: Campus Racial and Ethnic Climate in Hong Kong Higher Education: The Case of Ethnic Minority and Mainland Chinese Students

Co-Investigators: Prof Kerry Kennedy, Dr Linnie Wong

Dr Yusuf Oldac

Project Title: Hong Kong's Cross-border Research Collaborations in the Global Knowledge System

Co-Investigators: Dr Giulio Marini and Prof Anatoly Oleksiyenko

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Date	Journal	Title	Author(s)	Link
Sep 2025	Journal of Educational Administration	Boosting novice teachers' retention intention: international evidence on the role of mentoring via job satisfaction and organizational commitment	Dr Soobin Choi Seijoon Park	
Sep 2025	Minerva	Entrepreneurialism Meets Sustainability: Exploring Tensions in the Transition to Sustainable Entrepreneurial Universities	Prof Cai Yuzhuo Rómulo Pinheiro Evandro Coggo Cristofolletti Po Yang	
Aug 2025	Journal of Professional Capital and Community	Transitivity between school principals' instructional and administrative advice-seeking relations in a rural district: friendship matters	Prof Sedat Gümüş Dr Lu Jiafang Dr Köksal Banoğlu Ibrahim Hakan Karatas	
Aug 2025	Beijing International Review of Education	Demystifying the Western Imagination of the Miracle of East Asia Education: Transboundary Learning Culture as a New Discourse on Students' Academic Success	Dr Percy Kwok Young Chun Kim Jung-Hoon Jung	
Aug 2025	Studies in Higher Education	A typology of critique about higher education teaching: functional pragmatists, learning theorists, and critical theorists	Prof Bruce Macfarlane	
Aug 2025	International Journal of Educational Research	Southeast Asia's cross-regional research collaborations in the multiplex world: Current trends and future paths	Dr Yusuf Oldac Dr Jacob Oppong Nkansah Miguel Lim Ka Ho Mok Ly Tran Lili Yang	

Date	Journal	Title	Author(s)	Link
Jul 2025	Philosophy of Education	Confucianism: An Approach to Education for Morality and Rationality	Dr Lam Chi Ming	
Jun 2025	Educational Review	What is the International Baccalaureate for? Exploring educational purpose through the Middle Years Programme's Personal Project	Dr Ewan Wright Dr Chrysa Keung	
May 2025	Journal of Professional Capital and Community	Conceptions of global competence among local university students in Hong Kong: A prototype study	Dr Ying Ji Dala Duo	
May 2025	Educational Philosophy and Theory	Fluidizing the 'South Korea as method' praxis using poststructuralist/post modern framework: Reshaping postcolonial/post-oriental educational studies	Dr Percy Kwok	
Apr 2025	School Effectiveness and School Improvement	Promoting school belonging for immigrant students: the interplay of inclusive school climate and multicultural education	Dr Soobin Choi Xinyi Mao Seijoon Park	
Apr 2025	Leading & Managing (Volume 31 - 1)	Promises of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in reframing student agency and democratic participation in K-12 schools: Perspectives from student leaders	Dr Köksal Banoğlu Justin Patrick Özge Hacifazlioglu	

Doctoral Student Exchange@ The University of Southampton



Naina Qadri (PhD, Second Year)

Participating in the EPL Doctoral Student Exchange at the University of Southampton, UK was an excellent experience, especially as a first-year PhD student. My primary motivation for joining was the opportunity to work with a professor whose model forms the foundation of my research project. Having direct access to his expert consultations and insights not only enriched my understanding but also opened several new directions that I can integrate into my PhD work.

The exchange period facilitated my research by giving me clarity and confidence to move forward with my project. Engaging with an international academic environment allowed me to explore diverse perspectives, teaching styles, and cultural experiences, all of which broadened my academic outlook. The exposure to ongoing research at Southampton further strengthened the quality and scope of my work.

I would strongly recommend this exchange to other PhD candidates. It is a unique opportunity to gain mentorship, broaden academic horizons, and network with peers across borders. Experiencing this in the very first year of PhD provides an invaluable head start.

For future applicants, my advice is to live closer to the university to save transport costs and plan your visit between September and June to participate fully in the academic year's activities."



Scan and apply or learn more about
**Doctor of Philosophy or 2026/27 Hong Kong PhD
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contact frhdc@eduhk.hk / rpg@eduhk.hk.





Professional Development Programmes | 專業進修課程

Courses offering 開辦課程 (2025/26):

- BWP104 - Deputy Heads in Primary Schools 小學副校長培訓
- BWP120 - Communication, Mediation and Complaint Management 溝通、調解與投訴管理
- BWP122 - School Improvement and Leadership 學校改進與領導
- BWP130 - Organization and Management of Life-wide Learning Activities 全方位學習的組織與管理
- BWP141 - Deputy Heads in Secondary Schools 中學副校長培訓
- CWP014 - Induction for Novice Functional/Subject Heads 科組主任的入門
- CWP016 - Complaint Management for Kindergartens: Communication and Mediation 幼稚園投訴管理：溝通與調解
- CWP018 - School Improvement and Leadership for Principals 學校改進與領導校長課程
- CWP023 - Implementing Patriotic Education in Hong Kong Schools 在香港學校實施愛國主義教育
- CWP024 - Skills for Leading Interdisciplinary Pedagogical and Curricular Collaborations and Innovations 跨學科教學與課程協作及創新領導技能

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