

Contributors

Ms. Lindy Abawi is a lecturer in curriculum and pedagogy in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. Over the years Lindy has taught secondary art and English, primary music, and English as a second language. She is involved in the implementation of the Innovative Designs for Enhancing Achievement in Schools (IDEAS) project and has been a facilitator of the process at school, state, and interstate levels. Her doctoral dissertation topic is linked to the use of a common language to facilitate pedagogical development and meaning making.

Dr. Stephen Adkison is currently the provost and senior vice-president of Eastern Oregon University, USA. His academic interests are in English/rhetoric and composition, tertiary teaching and learning, and academic administration. During the development of the chapter in this book, he was serving as the interim director of the Center for Teaching and Learning, faculty coordinator for Assessment and Program Review, and associate professor of English at Idaho State University, USA.

Dr. Paul Beardsley is an evolutionary biologist/science educator. His research interests include evolution education, plant evolution and genetics, and rare plants. He has been involved in science education from kindergarten to PhD supervision. He is currently a science educator for the Biological Sciences Curriculum Study (BSCS), USA. During the development of the chapter in this book, he was an assistant professor of biological sciences at Idaho State University, USA.

Mr. Keith Cardwell is qualified as a mechanical and production engineer and also has a diploma in sport and recreation, a diploma in business and industrial administration, and a master of education in lifelong learning. He is currently a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. His research involves looking at the competencies learned and necessary for recreational diving instructors.

Ms. Danielle d'Abadie is a counselor with an interest in the learning experiences of students with disabilities. Danielle graduated with a bachelor of science (honors) in psychology in 2006. Her research interests include supporting students with disabilities through their programs of study and she is also interested in the wider impacts of life on the student experience. At the time of writing the chapter in this book, Danielle was the research assistant in the project.

Professor Patrick Alan Danaher is professor in education (education research) in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. He is coauthor of two research books and sole or coeditor of nine edited books, four refereed conference proceedings, and 31 academic journal theme issues. His research and writing interests include educational mobilities; educational research ethics, methods, and politics; the work and identities of academics, educators, and researchers; lifelong education; open and distance education; rural education; and vocational education and training.

Ms. Samantha Dean holds an undergraduate degree in journalism from Griffith University, Australia and a masters degree in international relations. She has had her work published in the *Koori Mail* and the *Courier-Mail*, and, in her current position as Communications and Media Officer at Eidos Institute, Brisbane, Australia, runs a series of seminars aimed at encouraging a democratic debate around key issues of public policy within the wider community. Sam is committed to the Eidos ethos of closing the growing gap among individuals and groups in our knowledge economy and firmly believes in the power of collaborative research in innovative networking.

Dr. Dinah R. Dovona-Ope contributed to this book whilst undergoing PhD study in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. She recently graduated as the first Papua New Guinean with a PhD from USQ. Upon her return to her country she was appointed the head of department and senior lecturer in educational psychology, guidance, and counseling at the University of Goroka in Papua New Guinea. She hails from Bougainville Island.

Associate Professor Peter Dunn is a biostatistician at the University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia. He has broad expertise in the application of statistics to a variety of applications, including publications in the areas of teaching, technology, health, ecology, and agriculture. He has a strong background in mathematical statistics, and especially generalized linear

models. He is a world leader in research to understand the Tweedie class of distributions, where his research has developed methods for the accurate numerical evaluation of the densities of the Tweedie distributions. He has presented numerous conference papers (winning a prize at the 16th International Workshop on Statistical Modeling in Odense, Denmark, in 2001, and the E. J. Pitman Prize at the Australian Statistics Conference in 2002), and he has broad experience in the application of statistics in applied settings.

Dr. Sara Hammer is a learning and teaching designer at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. Sara has a PhD in applied ethics and social policy. Her current research interests include the learning experiences of students with disabilities, graduate attributes, lifelong learning, criterion-referenced assessment, and critical thinking.

Dr. R. Todd Hartle is an educator/researcher with an eclectic range of interests and experiences. He holds degrees in anthropology, psychology, ecology, and tertiary biology education. He has lived in several countries around the world and is currently at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia, performing tertiary education research, academic learning support, and research program evaluation. The chapter in this book is an extension of his dissertation research from Idaho State University, USA.

Dr. Karen Hawkins is currently the program coordinator for the bachelor of education (early childhood) program in the School of Education, Southern Cross University, Tweed/Gold Coast campus, Australia. As well as her first teaching degree she holds a graduate diploma in special needs education, a master of education, and a doctor of philosophy (the latter from the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia). Through participatory action research, Karen's doctorate examined specific pedagogical strategies that assisted early childhood educators to teach for social justice. Karen's research interests gravitate toward early childhood education, social justice, literacy, "wholeness," and well-being.

Associate Professor Robyn Henderson is an associate professor (literacies education) in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. She teaches undergraduate and postgraduate students in courses that relate to literacy curriculum and pedagogy. Most of her research is also in the literacy area, and she is particularly interested in the education of mobile school students and finding ways that education systems might better cater for students with mobile lifestyles.

Dr. Henk Huijser is a curriculum development specialist (problem based learning) at Bahrain Polytechnic in the Arabian Gulf. Prior to that he was a lecturer in the Learning and Teaching Support Unit at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. His research interests include technology-enhanced learning and teaching, cross-cultural communication, and cultural studies, and he has published widely in all three areas. His current interests include mobile learning and social networking technology, and their potential applications in higher education.

Dr. Máirín Kenny, former principal of a primary school for Irish Traveller children, is an independent academic in Dublin, Ireland. Her main focus is on marginalization in education. Topics she has researched include: sectarianism in infant classes; ethnicity and racism in Irish schools; young people with disabilities in primary and secondary schools; and engagements between education and nomadism, with specific focus on Roma and Travellers. She is the author of *The Routes of Resistance: Travellers and Second Level Schooling* (Ashgate, 1997), and coeditor of *Traveller, Nomadic and Migrant Education* (Routledge, 2009).

Miss Kirsten Kinash is a 12-year-old girl in Year 7 at Clover Hill State School, Australia, where she is the School Captain. Kirsten lives in the hinterland on the Gold Coast. She is passionate about wildlife and the environment. She is a synchronized swimmer with the Gold Coast Mermaids and plays the flute.

Dr. Shelley Kinash is the director of quality, teaching, and learning at Bond University on the Gold Coast, Australia. Shelley has been a university academic for 16 years, teaching previously at the University of Calgary in Canada and the University of Southern Queensland in Australia. Shelley's PhD is in educational technology and her dissertation topic was blind online learners. Shelley is an active researcher and her current inquiries are into measuring the impact of mobile technologies on learning.

Dr. Laurie Kocher is a lecturer in the Faculty of Child, Family, and Community Studies at Douglas College near Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. She has taught in a variety of settings, from kindergarten to university. Her doctoral research, undertaken in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia, focused on how and where hermeneutic phenomenology intersects with the practice of pedagogical documentation that emerges from the early childhood educational project of Reggio Emilia, Italy.

Associate Professor Jill Lawrence is associate dean (learning and teaching) in the Faculty of Arts at the Toowoomba campus of the University of

Southern Queensland, Australia. Her research interests include higher education, the first-year experience, cross-cultural communication, and critical discourse theory. Her PhD looked at how first-year students made their transition to an unfamiliar university culture.

Ms. Kym Lawson is experienced in the field of disability and at the time of writing the chapter in this book was coordinator of disability resources at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. After graduating as an occupational therapist, she worked in the disability field for 11 years, initially in early intervention and services for adults with intellectual disabilities. Kym has an interest in investigating the experiences of students to assist in improving services and ensuring that students reach their full potential in their studies.

Ms. Sherilyn Lennon is a part-time head of department at a rural Queensland high school and a full-time PhD student in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. She is also a mother of three, farmer's wife, and avid gardener. Her research explores the link between socio-cultural influences within and beyond the school gate and students' schooling and life performances.

Ms. Alison Mander is a lecturer (teaching and learning studies) in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. She has research interests in teachers' work and professionalism, professional practice, education policy, and curriculum and practice. She was the coauthor of a paper that won an Outstanding Paper Award at the 2006 annual conference of the Society for Information Technology and Teacher Education.

Mr. Sean Mehmet teaches at Shinshu University's School of General Education, located in Matsumoto City, Nagano prefecture, Japan. He is concurrently a doctoral candidate in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. His doctoral research involves examining the extent to which the Developmental Model of Intercultural Sensitivity can be used to uncover potential connections between foreign-language learners' intercultural sensitivity and their achievement on language-proficiency tests. He lives with his lovely spouse Reiko and their two children, Tara and Duncan.

Dr. Warren Midgley is a lecturer in curriculum and pedagogy in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. His doctor of philosophy study explored the experiences of Saudi students at an Australian university, and his research interests include second-language acquisition and

use, culturally and linguistically diverse students' experiences, diversity and social justice in education, and the methodology and ethics of cross-cultural research. Warren is coeditor of and contributor to the research book *Sustaining Synergies: Collaborative Research and Researching Collaboration* (Post Pressed, 2010).

Professor Bruce Muirhead is the founding Chief Executive Officer and Professor of the Eidos Institute, Brisbane, Australia. Prior to joining Eidos, he was the founding Director of the University of Queensland's "Boilerhouse" Research Centre. He has more than 25 years of experience in building partnerships between the public and private sectors, focusing on the connections among economic, public, and social innovation in the development of community capacity at local and global levels. He writes and travels extensively and over the past few years has been invited to speak about collaborative innovation at conferences in Europe, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

Dr. Karen Noble has held roles in the university sector for the past nine years and prior to that a number of teaching positions in a broad range of contexts. Karen is currently the associate dean (teaching and learning) and the early childhood program coordinator in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. Her expertise in education and capacity building is evident in the quality of her academic teaching and learning, and she has been chief investigator for education and community development research projects in Queensland and internationally.

Associate Professor Veronica Pacini-Ketchabaw is associate professor and coordinator of the early years specialization in the School of Child and Youth Care at the University of Victoria, Canada. She has worked professionally in the field of early childhood education for over 15 years and taught at different levels in a variety of educational settings in Argentina and Canada. She teaches and conducts research on issues related to poststructuralist, feminist, and postcolonial theory–practice in early childhood education.

Mr. Cec Pedersen is a senior lecturer (management and organizational behavior) in the Faculty of Business and Law at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. Previously he was the Queensland administrator for the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners Training Program and prior to that he spent over 14 years in general management and consulting positions in small- and medium-sized organizations. His current research and educational interests are leadership in tertiary education, human resource development, and Eastern business education.

Mr. Akihiro Saito is a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. The topic of his dissertation is language attitudes of Japanese sojourners studying English overseas. His research interests cover a range of issues in the broad area of applied linguistics, including language attitudes, motivation, identity, and their implications for language pedagogy. While his methodological interests straddle both positivist and postpositivist paradigms, he is currently keen on applying postmodernist theories to this fascinating field.

Professor Michael Singh directs the "Knowledge Work Democracy" research program, Centre for Educational Research, University of Western Sydney, Australia. He undertakes curriculum research focusing on internationalizing education through transnational knowledge exchange; work-related education, training, and learning; the links among education policy, people, and place; and embedded international research education. Strategic partnerships involving transnational and interorganizational collaborations to effect knowledge flows through capacity building are key elements of his research.

Dr. Rosemary J. Smith's research includes behavioral ecology and science education. The focus of her biological research is on the behavior, ecology, and evolution of burying beetles, particularly population dynamics and reproductive strategies. In biology education, she studies the effectiveness of a variety of teaching methods, including methods to enhance teacher training and inquiry-based activities. She is currently a tenured professor of biological sciences at Idaho State University, USA.

Dr. Mark A. Tyler is a lecturer in the Faculty of Education at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. Mark has a background in human services and technical and further education teaching. His expertise lies in learning and teaching within the workplace and distance education. His academic interests are critical spirit, criticality, teacher identities, mentoring, teaching and learning in vocational and technical education, lifelong learning, and workplace learning.

Ms. Shalene Werth is a lecturer in employment relations in the Faculty of Business and Law at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. Her PhD study is on the topic of the workforce outcomes of women with chronic illness. Her research interests include the impact that chronic illness has on the lives of sufferers, and ways that collective action can improve outcomes for both workers and students. The ways that employers accommodate chronic illness with a specific focus on gender and related industrial relations theories are also of interest.

Dr. DJ Williams is a leading expert on deviant leisure, including gambling behavior in correctional settings, and critical issues in sexology, forensic social work, and criminology. His research frameworks range from statistics to postmodern autoethnography. He is currently an assistant professor of sociology, social work, and criminal justice at Idaho State University, USA.

Dr. Peng Zhou is a lecturer in the Faculty of Business and Law at the Toowoomba campus of the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. Before coming to Australia in 1998, Dr. Zhou was a business lecturer at a Chinese regional university. After completing his PhD in 2002, Dr. Zhou was employed to coordinate a Mandarin MBA program jointly operated by the University of Southern Queensland and its Chinese partners. His current research interests are in cross-cultural issues in business education, international marketing of higher education services, and Chinese consumer behavior.