



Indo-Finnish Research Seminar on Education: Charting Collaborative Pathways for The Future

23-24 September 2024, at Azim Premji University, Bengaluru Campus

The Azim Premji University together with the Global Innovation Network for Teaching and Learning (GINTL) is organising a two-day seminar that brings together Indian and Finnish experts to share and discuss on different areas in education.

Members of School of Education, Teacher Education group at School of Arts and Sciences and School of Continuing Education at Azim Premji University will participate in the *hybrid* event along with faculty from University of Helsinki and University of Jyväskylä.

During 2021-2024 Azim Premji University has established strong connections between two GINTL universities in Finland: University of Jyväskylä and University of Helsinki. The three universities have collaborated through bilateral visits, projects and knowledge sharing seminars.

The aim of this seminar is to bring together collaborators from the University of Helsinki, the University of Jyväskylä and Azim Premji University. The seminar strengthens the understanding of the educational landscapes in both the countries and offers a platform to initiate further research and academic collaboration across the three universities.

Programme on Day 1 - 23rd September 2024, Monday

IST	Finnish Time	Location	Programme
9.00am - 9.15am	6.30am - 6.45am	Gurudutt Seminar Hall Zoom Link:	Welcome Address Ankur Madan, Director, School of Education
9.15am - 10.30am	6.45am - 8.00am		Opening Address Topic: Education and Educational Research in India Speaker: Anurag Behar, CEO, Azim Premji Foundation

IST	Finnish Time	Location	Programme
10.30am - 11.00am	8.00am - 8.30am		Tea Break
11.00am - 1.00pm	8.30am - 10.30 am		<p>Plenary Session Topic: Current Trends and Future Needs of Education in Finland and India: Policy, Practice and Research</p> <p>Moderator: Rishikesh BS, Associate Director, School of Education</p> <p>Themes and Panellists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Education and Sustainability – Hannele Cantell, Associate Professor, University of Helsinki 2. Diversity in Classrooms – Tuomo Virtanen, Senior Lecturer and Title of Docent, University of Jyväskylä 3. Disciplinary and interdisciplinary approaches to teaching-learning – Rakhi Banerjee, Professor, Azim Premji University 4. Higher Education – Richa Govil, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Azim Premji University
1.00pm - 2.00pm	10.30am - 11.30am		Lunch
2.00pm - 5.00pm	11.30am - 2.30 pm	Separate rooms for each group	<p>Parallel sessions – Small group round-table discussions.</p> <p><i>12-15 mins of presentations followed by Q and A</i></p> <p><i>*Blurbs describing scope of the parallel sessions are given below. Presentation details and blurbs in separate document.</i></p>
Includes Tea Break	<p><i>hybrid presentations 11.30am-1.00pm</i></p> <p><i>break 1.00pm-1.30pm</i></p>	Zoom links for those joining from other locations	
	<p><i>discussion and Q&A</i></p>		
			<p>Group 1: Science and Math Education</p> <p>Venue: Kaveri Sangama 601</p> <p>Zoom link:</p>



IST	Finnish Time	Location	Programme
	1.30pm-2.30pm Includes Tea Break		Group 2: Pathways to Quality Early Childhood Education Venue: Mysuru 601 Zoom Link:
			Group 3: Language, Diversity and Inclusion Venue: Kaveri Kodugu 601 Zoom Link:
			Group 4: Education in challenging contexts and negotiating the idea of citizenship Venue: Kaveri Poompuhara 601 Zoom Link:
			Group 5: Sports, Arts and Vocational Education Venue: Hampi 001 Zoom Link:
			Group 6: Higher Education Venue: Hampi 008 Zoom Link:
5.00pm - 5.15pm	2.30pm - 2.45pm	Gurudutt Seminar Hall	Closing remarks Sharad Sure, Registrar, Azim Premji University



Programme on Day 2 - 24th September 2024, Tuesday

Indian Standard Time	Finnish Time	Location	Programme
9.00am - 10.30am	6.30am - 8.00am	Gurudutt Seminar Hall	<p>Plenary Session</p> <p>Topic: Laying the Scope of Future Collaboration</p> <p>Moderator: Kinnari Pandya, Associate Professor, School of Education</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Harini Nagendra, Director, Research Centre, School of Climate Change and Sustainability, Azim Premji University 2. Ankur Madan, Director, School of Education, Azim Premji University, 3. Pasi Ikonen, Executive member, and Anna-Maija Poikkeus (online), Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology, University of Jyväskylä 4. Hannele Cantell, Associate Professor, and Arto Kallioniemi (online), Vice-Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Helsinki
10.30am- 11.00 am	8.00am – 8.30 am		Tea Break



11.00am - 1.00 pm	8.30am - 10.30am	Gurudutt Seminar Hall	Plenary Session Topic: Exploring Avenues for Future Collaboration Moderator: Apoorwa Hooda, GINTL India Coordination 1. Introduction to the Finnish Institute for Educational Research and its' cross-continental collaborative projects - Kristof Fenyvesi, Senior Researcher, University of Jyvaskyla 2. Sharing of current projects 3. Sharing of thematic discussions on Day 1 4. Small Group Discussions for potential future work
1.00pm - 2.00pm	10.30am - 11.30am		Lunch
2.00pm - 3.00pm	11.30am - 12.30pm	Gurudutt Seminar Hall	Closure and Way forward

Description of Parallel Sessions on 23rd September 11.30am-2.30pm Finnish time/ 2 to 5 pm Indian Time

The aim of this parallel session is to deepen our understanding of the Indian and Finnish context the concerns on education in both countries contexts and gauge if there are common emerging themes for future collaborations.

Group 1: Science and Mathematics Education

Session organizers: Sindhu Mathai and Rakhi Banerjee

The past few decades have seen renewed interest in the idea of interdisciplinarity or building epistemic connections between the sciences, mathematics and the arts. Such conceptualisations also require some fidelity to the essence of disciplines even while reimagining content through themes. We will discuss and explore approaches to STEAM (Science Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math Education) education including experiments from Finnish and Indian contexts and possibilities for the future.



Group 2: Pathways to quality early childhood education

Session organizers: Ira Joshi and Kinnari Pandya

Universal quality early education is envisioned as a critical sustainable development goal. In this session we will explore cross-cutting principles and practices that determine the quality of early childhood curricula for children across contexts. We will engage on themes related to equity, inclusion, identity through the stages of early childhood development and the role of various actors that influence early years learning and experiences of children.

Group 3: Language, Diversity and Inclusion

Session organizers: Sharoon Sunny and Tea K

Language, diversity and inclusion are fundamental to fostering an equitable academic environment. In this parallel session, we will explore aspects of language and language pedagogy, diversity and all forms of inclusion - how each individually plays out in a curricular context, as well as their inter-relationships. * *Inclusion: social, linguistic, abilities, gender & digital access*

Group 4: Education in challenging contexts and negotiating the idea of citizenship

Session organizer: Saswati Paik and Rupamanjari Hegde

There are numerous challenges across the world in different geographies. The challenges range from natural hazards to geo-political conflicts often helping reproduce existing social inequalities. Given the range of challenges, formal education of children is affected. In addition, random and forced migrations take place, and the displacement of many people further exacerbate the crisis in education. Many such displaced children face the challenge in terms of their citizenship (Am I a citizen or not?), human rights (What are my rights?) and association with their own place (Where do I belong?). In such a situation, there are initiatives taken by political agencies, educational institutions and civil society organisations to negotiate with such cardinal questions. This session will highlight the challenges and will explore the possibilities of collaborative works on this issue.

Group 5: Sports, Arts and Vocational Education

Session organizers: Nimrat Kaur and Arvind Bharathi

With the new National Curriculum Framework for School Education in India making art, physical and vocational education mandatory curricular areas for all schools, there is a need to build capacity in the system, particularly among teachers, to implement them in a meaningful way. This session will explore the Finnish approach to these curricular areas as well as preparedness for implementation in India.

Group 6: Higher Education

Session organizer: Miriam Thangaraj

The growing demand for higher education, even in poorly-resourced contexts like India, attests to the need to consider issues – not only of access, but also – of quality, inclusion and governance. In this panel,



participants draw on their experiences with diverse groups of learners, in a variety of higher education contexts, whether in classrooms or at the institutional level, to consider the possibilities and challenges offered by the current expansionary moment with respect to quality, inclusion and governance.

Visiting Delegate - Bionotes

Kristóf Fenyvesi, Senior Researcher, Finnish Institute for Educational Research, University of Jyväskylä

Kristóf Fenyvesi, Ph.D. (b. 1979) is a Senior Researcher of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics), trans- and multidisciplinary learning and Contemporary Cultural Studies at the Finnish Institute for Educational Research, University of Jyväskylä, Finland (<https://ktl.jyu.fi/en>). He is a member of University of Jyväskylä's Research Group for Innovative Learning Environments and Tampere University's Research Group for Education, Assessment & Learning. He is an Adjunct Professor of the Korea National University of Education, Seoul, Associate Professor of STEAM Education at Indonesia University of Education (UPI), an Associate Professor of University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy, a Visiting Researcher of Tallinn University's School of Educational Sciences (STEAM4EDU), and a Visiting Researcher of Hong Kong Metropolitan University. In 2014 he became a full member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts. His main areas of research are mathematics and art connections in learning; STEAM education; inquiry-based, cooperative, playful and experience-oriented approaches in mathematics education; problem-solving in mathematics, in science and art education; connecting hands-on activities and digital modeling in mathematics, science, art and design education; science & art connections in learning; phenomenon-based, multi- and transdisciplinary learning and co-teaching; inter-, cross-, multi- and transdisciplinary management and trans-curricular leadership in education; interdisciplinary aesthetics and philosophy

Pasi Ikonen, Member of Executive Board, Department of Teacher Education , University of Jyväskylä

Mr. Pasi Ikonen is an experienced teacher and teacher trainer. He is currently working as a University Teacher in the Department of Teacher Education at the University of Jyväskylä. Over his carrier he has been involved several national and international in-service training programs both academic and school teachers. Mr. Ikonen has also has experience of international teacher professional development projects in several countries including USA, Saudi-Arabia, China, Thailand, UAE, Kosovo, France and United Kingdom. His main research interests are teacher education and technology education. His duty at the University includes memberships in Executive Board of the Department, Pedagogical Committee of the Department and Faculty Committee of International Affairs. He is Faculty representative and board member in international Joolii institution. Mr. Ikonen's background is a comprehensive school teacher and he worked on several grades and schools before attending to University 2003.

Heidi Layne, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Education and Psychology , University of Jyväskylä

Heidi Layne is a Senior Lecturer in Sustainable and Global Education at the University of Jyväskylä and she holds an Adjunct Professorship in Sociology of Education at the University of Helsinki, Finland. Her research interests are on social and cultural sustainability, social and eco injustices, interculturality and antiracism pedagogy, teacher education and developing innovative qualitative research methods. She has been leading research projects both in Finland and in Singapore. The past two years she has been leading GINTL funded Education for Emergencies (E4E) research project involving partners from India, Ghana, South-Africa and China. In addition, she co-leads a Master's Degree Programme in Educational Sciences, and is a



Chair for an annual participatory SDG4 seminar and Cultivating Change through Global and Sustainable Education (GloseNet) -network coordinated by the University of Jyväskylä.

Tuomo Virtanen, Senior Lecturer, Department of Teacher Education , University of Jyväskylä

Tuomo Virtanen (<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-2971-8046>) is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Teacher Education at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland, and an Associate Professor II at the University of Stavanger, Norway. He has published 30 articles in international peer-reviewed journals and is currently supervising 10 doctoral students. His research focuses on student engagement in school and lessons, school absenteeism, and classroom interactions.

Tuomo Virtanen applies advanced structural equation modeling techniques in his research. He is a researcher in ongoing research projects focusing on the integration of immigrant-background students into Finnish basic education (<https://www.tuni.fi/en/research/voitto-integration-and-support-students-transitioning-preparatory-education-basic>), school absenteeism (<https://www.jyu.fi/en/projects/education-flagship>), and classroom interactions (<https://www.uis.no/en/research/interact>).

Apoorwa Hooda, GINTL India, University Teacher, Faculty of Education and Psychology , University of Jyväskylä

Apoorwa Hooda is a university teacher and doctoral researcher at the University of Jyväskylä and has been involved with teaching courses on Global Perspectives on School Reform and International Education Policies and Practices. She leads and manages educational partnerships with India under the GINTL India network at JYU. Apoorwa's background and early work experience in India was as a middle- and high-school science teacher and program manager of STEM programs in Indian public schools. Apoorwa has published on gamification in education and entrepreneurial education as an Apoorwa's ongoing doctoral dissertation is titled "Rural schools to learning organizations: Exploring community members' mental models to support low SES school communities of rural India" and uses participatory methods for capacity building within Indian rural school communities.

Tea Kangasvieri, GINTL India, Network Coordinator, Faculty of Education and Psychology , University of Jyväskylä

Tea Kangasvieri (she/her) works as a network coordinator in the Global Innovation Network for Teaching and Learning (GINTL) India at the University of Jyväskylä, Finland. In this role, she has coordinated a variety of activities for a network comprising ten Finnish higher education institutions and their respective partners in India. For example, her responsibilities have included fostering connections and facilitating events and discussions for students and researchers. Tea holds a master's degree in German language, with a minor in Russian language and pedagogical studies, which qualify her to teach these languages at different levels of education. Prior to joining GINTL, Tea worked as a language teacher and coordinated a national project for improved language education. Her professional and academic areas of interest are developing the expertise of language educators and creating good quality in-service teacher training in language education. She has co-authored peer-reviewed articles and teacher training handbooks on these topics.

Riikka Suhonen, Doctoral Researcher, Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Helsinki

Riikka Suhonen is doctoral researcher in the Doctoral Programme in School, Education, Society and Culture in University of Helsinki. Her ongoing PhD research is about understanding and applying global citizenship education in upper secondary vocational education especially in Finland. Riikka is particularly interested in youth civic engagement, controversial issues in education, collaboration with civil society, participatory methods, as well as examining the tensions between the promotion of pluralistic perspectives and the



creation of safer spaces for learning. Riikka's research interests reflect her earlier studies in humanistic and social sciences (African Studies and Global Development Studies, with a minor in South Asian Studies) as well as work experience within development cooperation, global education, and internationalisation in education. She has also a second Master's degree in Communication for Development, and recently she completed Professional Teacher Education studies aimed at particularly for vocational education teachers in upper secondary and higher education levels. Previously Riikka has worked with international affairs in a vocational college in Finland, as well as for two years for the United Nations in Bhutan. Currently Riikka is teaching on a Master's course Education and Global Justice, and qualitative methods courses at the University of Helsinki.

Hannele Cantell, Senior University Lecturer, Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Helsinki

Hannele Cantell is a senior university lecturer of geography education in Faculty of Educational Sciences, University of Helsinki. She did her Ph.D. study in 2001 about different perceptions of good teaching and learning. She was nominated as associate professor (title of docent) in 2005. Hannele's teaching and research interests are dealing with sustainability issues, like global education, climate education, sustainability education and geography education. Hannele Cantell has been an active participant and developer of Finnish education sector: she has been a member of Finnish basic and upper secondary education curriculum reforms in three decades (1994, 2004, 2014, 2019). In addition, she has been producing over 150 schoolbooks, other teaching and learning materials, non-fiction scientific books, and novel books, for over 30 years. She has been nominated as the non-fiction writer of the year in 2011. Hannele is an active and popular speaker, writer and expert in education, but also in questions like equity, equality, minorities and various eco-social issues. She was awarded as the alumni of the year 2024 in University of Helsinki, and in September 2024 she got the annual Sivistys Prize, which is given for a fearless defender of life-long education and justice.

Hannele Cantell is a global actor. She has done collaboration with countries of global south for decades. The most inspiring collaboration happens with Azim Premji Foundation and Azim Premji University, and it has continued since 2011.

