Dr. Ken Zeichner, University of Washington–Seattle

Social and Epistemological Dimensions of a Social Justice Approach to Teacher Education

ABSTRACT

This talk will explore the different dimensions that make up a social justice approach to teacher education with a particular focus on knowledge and power relations. The presenter will discuss a number of examples of current work where efforts are being made by teacher educators to establish more democratic social and power relationships with schools and communities in the preparation of teachers.

Thursday, March 15th, 12:30 – 2:00
SCARFE Rm. 310 (light refreshments provided)

BIO

Ken Zeichner is the Boeing Professor of Teacher Education and Director of Teacher Education at the University of Washington-Seattle. Before joining the University of Washington he spent 33 years in the School of Education at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he was the Hoefs-Bascom Professor of Teacher Education in the Department of Curriculum & Instruction. He has served as Vice President of AERA (Division K), a member of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, and co-chair of the AERA Panel on Research in Teacher Education. In 2009, he was elected to the National Academy of Education. His research focuses on understanding the historical trajectories of different approaches to improving teacher education and on elaborating the underlying assumptions, program elements, and consequences of different approaches to social justice oriented teacher education. His recent publications include a book entitled, Teacher Education and the Struggle for Social Justice (Routledge, 2009), and "Competition, economic rationalization, increased surveillance and attacks on diversity: Neo-liberalism and the transformation of teacher education in the U.S." in the International Journal of Teaching and Teacher Education (2010).