Indigeneity, Community and Participatory Practice: Methodologies, Concepts and Perspectives

Dr. Mark Vicars | Victoria University, Melbourne, Australia
Dr. Jennifer Markides | SSHRC TII Canada Research Chair, University of Calgary
Host | Dr. Kerry Renwick

Tuesday, July 11, 2023 | 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. (PST) | Via Zoom
* for zoom details, please email edcp.educ@ubc.ca

This seminar will offer critical reflection to identify and explore issues of decolonisation of knowledge creation; gender and sexuality power dynamics; value of and threats to ancestral knowledge; social (in)justice; memory and conflict and community participation in the context of co-produced projects that incorporate interdisciplinary perspectives. In this seminar we argue that collaborative ways of working have the potential to exert deep learning, listening, trust-building and mutual understanding and we explore the intellectual, conceptual and ethical concerns, textures, tensions and dynamics of collaborative methodologies. We pose questions of how positionality, power, relationships and affect are experienced and re-negotiated in (i) knowing as embodiment- knowing through our body- the hunger, tastes, discomforts and pains, (ii) knowing as emotion- opening us up to worlds of passions, intuition, fears and betrayals, (iii) knowing through deliberate imposition- thinking with ideas about the world and ourselves that are slippery and indistinct, (iv) knowing as situated inquiry- thinking about thinking- how far is knowledge able to travel and does it still make sense in other locations and lives?

Dr. Mark Vicars main research interests are literacy education, and qualitative research methodologies. An overarching concern of his work is thinking through the connectivity between literacy and identity practices in everyday life. He has been awarded the Australian Learning and Teaching Council Citation for pedagogical approaches that motivate, inspire and support socially disadvantaged and culturally diverse students to overcome barriers to learning and to experience and attain success. He is an Honorary Research Professor at the Research Institute of Languages and Cultures of Asia, Mahidol University, Bangkok, Thailand. Mark has had his research published in international research journals and edited volumes. He is lead editor of Qualitative Research Journal, Series Editor for The Praxis of English Language (Brill/ Sense) and is a founding member of the International Institute for Critical Pedagogy and Transformative Leadership.

Dr. Jennifer Markides received the Dissertation Award for 2021 from the Canadian Association of Curriculum Studies for her doctoral study, titled “Wisdom and Well-being Post-Disaster: Stories Told by Youth,” and was given an Outstanding Indigenous Scholar/Researcher Award 2021 from the Indigenous Inquiries Circle. Jennifer's research focuses on the holistic wellbeing of youth and Indigenous education, towards systemic change and reconciliatory action. She prioritizes community-engaged partnerships where the research is responsive to the goals, priorities, needs, and dreams of Indigenous youth. She utilizes Indigenous research methodologies, emancipatory pedagogies, and arts-based approaches in her scholarship. Jennifer is also the series editor of the Community Wisdom series with DIO Press, and part of the circle of editors for the Pawaatahnik Journal of Métis Thinkers.