

# FED ERC Seminar

Brain Gain, Brain Drain and Brain Circulation: Theorizing “Double Diaspora” from the Experience of Chinese Canadians in Beijing

Date & Time: 7 December 2015, 13:00 – 14:00 (Light lunch begins at 12:30pm)

Venue: Room G021, Faculty of Education (E33)

Language: English

Audience: UM Staff / Postgraduate Students

Enquiries & Registration: Mr. Alan CHANG (FED\_Event@umac.mo); Tel: 8822-4109

*\* Complementary light lunch will be provided.*

## Abstract

To enhance global competitiveness, many countries have adopted global talent programs to compete for the most talented, skillful, and resourceful. As such, ‘brain drain, brain gain and brain circulation’ has emerged as a topic of great interest that attracts the attention of researchers, policymakers, and educators in recent years. Based on the experiences of Chinese Canadians in Beijing who had previously immigrated to Canada from China and later returned, I theorize a notion of “double diaspora” — a hybrid experience that transcends boundaries of ethnicity and nationalism. The double diaspora is characterized by a number of dualities as both Chinese and Canadian, living in Chinese and Canadian diaspora, simultaneously diasporas and returnees, playing a double role as cultural and economic brokers between Canada and China. The double diaspora views the diaspora sojourn as neither unidirectional nor final, but rather as multiple and circular. It rejects the primordial notion of diaspora and theorizes diaspora as heterogeneous and conflictual forms of sociality. This study provides an alternative framework in understanding transnational migration and representing multiple ways of affiliations and belonging.

## Speaker

Shibao GUO is Professor in the Werklund School of Education at the University of Calgary, Canada. His research, supervision and teaching focus on comparative and international education, citizenship and immigration, Chinese immigrants in Canada, ethnic relations, and adult and lifelong education. Prof. Guo has numerous publications, including books, journal articles, and book chapters. His recent work appeared in COMPARE, Comparative Education, Globalisation, Societies and Education, Journal of International Migration and Integration, and International Journal of Lifelong Education. Prof. Guo is past president of Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education (2009-2011) and Canadian Ethnic Studies Association (2012-2015). Currently he serves as vice-president of Comparative and International Education Society of Canada and is Co-Editor of Canadian Ethnic Studies.

