2016 Series (Number 14)

Digital Equity in Education: Hong Kong Students' Home Computing

Date & Time: 27 September 2016, 13:00 – 14:00 (Light lunch begins at 12:30pm)

Venue: Room G021, Tin Ka Ping Lecture Hall, Faculty of Education (E33)

Language: English

Audience: UM Staff / Postgraduate Students

Registration: https://goo.gl/9Wpo90

Enquiries: Mr. Brendan LEI (FED_Event@umac.mo); Tel: 8822-4120

* Complementary light lunch will be provided.

Abstract

A digital divide continues to be reported across and within nations, first as an access issue and later as an issue of effective use. This presentation will explore the issues of digital equity in education by presenting research findings of two empirical studies in Hong Kong on students' home computing. The first study will present findings of a territory-wide survey of 825 eighth-graders from 36 secondary schools. Results indicate significant socioeconomic and gender effects on the home computing of students. The second study will present an in-depth case study of 22 Hong Kong students aged from 7 to 18. Three salient clusters of users emerged from the data analysis, namely '*celebrating*' users, '*coping*' users, and '*struggling*' users. The findings indicate that although information and communication technology (ICT) is thoroughly integrated with students' everyday lives, some students lack the cultural or parenting resources required to build their capacity to effectively and meaningfully use ICT. The results reveal the significance of parental mediation and cultural capital for students' ICT use and thus digital equity. Policy implications of the findings to ICT in education will be discussed.

Speaker

Prof. Allan H.K. YUEN is Associate Professor in Information and Technology Studies and Director of the Centre for Information Technology in Education (CITE), Faculty of Education at the University of Hong Kong (HKU). He joined HKU in 1997, and served as Head of Division of Information and Technology Studies (2002-2005), Associate Dean (2005-2009), and Warden of Lee Hysan Hall (2006-2009). His primary research interests focus on technology adoption and educational change, evaluation of educational communications and technology, pedagogical innovations, social and cultural aspects of ICT in education, and digital divide. Dr. YUEN has led more than 50 research and development projects supported by various research funding bodies, such as University Grants Committee (UGC), Research Grants Council (RGC), Quality Education Fund (QEF), UNESCO, government agencies, and business organizations. He publishes widely in the aforementioned areas and has more than 260 publications including books, monographs, book chapters, journal articles, conference papers, and research reports. His recent co-authored book publications include: '*Educational Technology Program and Project Evaluation*' (2016; Routledge), '*Nurturing the Digital Generation: A Participatory Approach*' (2015; HKU: CITE), '*Educational Innovations beyond Technology: Nurturing Leadership and Establishing Learning Organizations*' (2011; Springer), and '*The Changing Face of Education in Hong Kong: Transition into the 21st Century*' (2010; HKU: CITE).