The Office of International Studies in Education

Cordially invites The College of Education faculty, students and staff for a conversation with

Keynote Address: Dr. Amita Chudgar
Associate Professor of Educational Administration, Faculty Associate of the Education Policy Center, MSU

Co-Speaker: Dr. Tom Luschei
Associate Professor of Education, Claremont Graduate University

Respondent: Dr. Josh Cowen
Associate Professor of Teacher Education, Faculty Associate of the Education Policy Center, MSU

Monday, March 17th, 2014
9:30 am – 11 am 133F Erickson Hall
A moderated conversation with students about the joys and challenges of conducting cross-national, mixed methods work

1:00 pm – 2:30 pm 133F Erickson Hall
Who teaches marginalized children and why? A mixed methods study of three world regions

Amita Chudgar’s work examines the influence of home, school, and community contexts on educational access and achievement of children in resource-constrained environments. Through the analysis of diverse, large-scale, national (India), regional (South Asia and Francophone Africa) and cross-national datasets, she explores the role of policy-relevant variables in ensuring equal educational opportunities for disadvantaged children. As nations struggle to provide these opportunities to more children with fewer resources, the pursuit of educational equity and quality compete with demands for greater efficiency. Her recent research has actively engaged with and responded to the inherent tensions among equity, quality and efficiency by examining the growth in alternative forms of education and their implications. Her long-term interests as a scholar focus on ensuring that children and adults in resource-constrained environments have equal access to high-quality learning opportunities irrespective of their backgrounds.

Tom Luschei is an associate professor in CGU’s School of Educational Studies, where he teaches courses on education in developing countries, urban education in the United States, and teacher quality and teacher policy. He holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Stanford University and a Master’s of Public Affairs from the University of Texas at Austin. He came to CGU in 2010 from Florida State University, where he taught courses on comparative education policy, education and culture, education and economic development, immigrant education policy, and international development education. He also led international educational research and development efforts at FSU’s Learning Systems Institute, including a 5-year, $1.84 million project funded by the United States Agency for International Development to improve teaching and learning in Indonesia.

Josh Cowen is an associate professor in the Department of Teacher Education and a faculty associate with the Education Policy Center at Michigan State University. His current research interests include teacher quality, student and teacher mobility, program evaluation and the implementation of education policy. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.