Festival of Learning Showcase

Facilitator(s): Dr Rekha Koul, Academic Engagement Developer, Curtin Teaching and Learning

Strategic theme: Leading in innovative education

Subject Title: Science Teacher Capacity Building in Developing Countries: Three Case Studies

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Brief Description:
In this session the findings of three case studies conducted in India and Indonesia where at different occasions and in different locations three day long workshops were delivered for the lower high school science teachers. Teachers were introduced to and then engaged in inquiry based teaching methods based on the Australian Academy of Science, ‘Science by Doing’ materials. Data were generated through Pre and post workshop surveys and Informal interviews with some teachers to gain insights into their professional needs.

Benefits:
Understanding the influence of learners’ socio-cultural background for effective teaching and learning is well documented in literature. Preparing teachers to teach students from diverse socio-cultural backgrounds is one of the most compelling challenges facing educators currently. Irrespective of students’ academic ability or linguistic, ethnic, religious or cultural backgrounds teachers need to be skilful in providing rich learning experiences. Placing poorly prepared teachers in classes where they are not sufficiently skilled or equipped to consider students’ cultural backgrounds in their teaching can yield negative educational outcomes. Two of Australia’s neighbouring countries India and Indonesia face this challenge as both these countries have very diverse populations.

Time/Day: Thursday 19 March 2015, 3:30 – 4:00pm

Duration: 20 + 10 Min

No. of Sessions: One

Venue: Building 211:Room 223

Special Requirements: No special requirements needed