



The **EducEight Group** and Northumbria University
are pleased to announce the:

**6th EducEight International Conference on
Ethnicity and Education: Old Issues, New Insights**

Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom
(4-6 July 2012)

Aims of the conference

We aim to showcase leading-edge research in the area of ethnic inequalities in education, focussing on key conceptual, methodological and empirical debates, while providing an opportunity for researchers from a range of countries to present and discuss their research, exchange ideas and network in a supportive environment.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Louise Archer - Professor of Sociology of Education, King's College London

Kalwant Bhopal - Reader in Education, Director of the Social Justice and Inclusive Education Research Centre, University of Southampton.

Hector Cebolla Boado – Associate Professor, UNED Madrid, Spain

Anthony Heath – Professor of Sociology, Fellow of Nuffield College, University of Oxford

Louise Ryan – Reader in Migration and Gender, Co-director of the Social Policy Research Centre, Middlesex University



CONFERENCE THEME

Educational systems in many developed countries around the world struggle to provide equal opportunities to all their members. Although education is often viewed as a mechanism for assisting the integration of ethnic minority groups into the social fabric of society - and for reducing prejudice and discrimination overall - research shows an incoherent picture with results varying between countries, schools and ethnic minority groups. While some scholars claim that class differences are more apparent and significant than ethnic or cultural dissimilarities, ethnic differences seem to persist in all educational areas including scholastic achievement, access to “good” schools, academic tracks, entry to post-



compulsory education, including access to certain higher education courses and types of institutions, as well as individual aspirations, teachers' attitudes, classroom experiences and the ethnic minority student experience in higher education institutions.

Within this conference we aim to look at ways schooling perpetuates ethnic differences in society by focusing on some of the following questions:

- *Who is left behind in the educational process; how and why? What are ethnic minority children taught in schools about their place in society and the world?*
- *Why are ethnic minority children distributed unevenly across the educational system? How does ethnicity feature in the construction of educational choices? How does ethnicity condition children's understanding of the role of education in their lives? How are aspirations shaped?*
- *Which individual characteristics distinguish academically successful students from their less successful counterparts? How do contextual and institutional factors impact on the educational careers of ethnic minority students? Which particular characteristics of educational systems reduce or exacerbate ethnic differences in education?*
- *What is the relationship between educational systems, migration policies and welfare provisions in relation to the educational integration of immigrant children? What are the provisions for historic or autochthonous minority children in terms of bilingual or mother tongue education and how these affect their aspirations, choices and experiences of education?*
- *What is the role of teachers and what can schools do in order to circumvent the marginalisation of certain ethnic groups? What strategies can be used to improve the educational outcomes of ethnic minority children?*
- *What are the different methodological, ethical and epistemological aspects of studying ethnic inequalities in education?*

All methodological approaches (incl. quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods) are welcome.

Please direct all questions and queries to the local organisers:
adel.pasztor@northumbria.ac.uk

ORGANISATION OF THE CONFERENCE

The conference will be organised in two different sessions:

Paper sessions

In this type of session, participants will have 15 minutes to present their paper, which should be focused on empirical research, theoretical and/or methodological discussions related to the main topic of the conference.

Open sessions: on "burning issues"

In this type of session, each participant will have 10 minutes to put forward questions, dilemmas and concerns which they wish to discuss. Issues might relate to a key problem in the literature or a dilemma faced in a particular research project, for instance. Each contribution will be followed by group discussion and response.

HOW TO APPLY

Your application should consist of:

- Your name, contact details, institutional affiliation, current position & nationality
- FOR PAPER SESSIONS: a structured abstract (A4 page), which includes:
a) the title, b) topic/ research question(s), c) theory, d) data and methods, e) (provisional) findings.
- FOR THE OPEN/BURNING ISSUES SESSIONS applications should consist of one or more pressing questions, concerns, or problems you want to discuss. Please, summarise why and how this/these question(s) are connected to the themes of the conference (A5 page)

We expect to be able to offer places to 20 participants. Please apply by email to: adel.pasztor@gmail.com. The deadline for applications is **the 30th January 2012**. Applicants will be informed of the outcome of their application by **29th February 2012**.

CONFERENCE FEES

£150 (payment on or before **1st May 2012**)

£200 (payment after this date)

Fees include the conference bags, coffee/tea breaks, lunches and the welcome dinner on the 4th July. The conference fee does not include accommodation and travel expenses to Newcastle, which you should plan on your own.

Hotel accommodation: we recommend the *Premier Inn Newcastle Central* in the centre of the town which is just a short walk away from the venue (prices from £59).

For those on budget there is available student accommodation situated at university premises of City Campus West (prices from £25). The contact details of these and some more hotels and B&Bs can be found here:

www.northumbria.ac.uk/static/worddocuments/acc/hotelguestlist.doc?view=Standard

FURTHER INFORMATION

More information on the conference can be found here: educ8.weebly.com. For further information about EducEight please see our website at www.educ8group.org.

THE CONFERENCE VENUE

Newcastle upon Tyne



Newcastle, the vibrant capital of the North-East, is situated on the north bank of the river Tyne. Famous for its nightlife, designer shops, the Newcastle United football team and of course 'Newcastle Brown Ale'. Newcastle has a lot on offer for everyone's taste.

The city's famous landmarks include the stunning Millennium Bridge next to the Sage music centre on the thriving Quayside, a cosmopolitan area with numerous bars, restaurants and pubs. There are several excellent art galleries, including the world-class BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art and the Laing Art Gallery, as well as many theatres and cinemas. Hadrian's Wall, a World Heritage site starts here at Wallsend while the North Sea's much loved blue flag beaches are only 10 miles away. Voted as the "UK's Greenest City", the "Best city in the North-East" as well as the "**Best University City**" in the UK it is a truly friendly city where Geordie people welcome every visitor with open arms.



Northumbria University

Northumbria University is the 5th largest university in the country and the largest in the North East, offering almost 500 courses on either full-time, part-time or distance learning basis. Its 40,000 students come from more than 130 countries making it one of the country's ten biggest recruiters of students from outside of the EU. Northumbria is also one of the top 10 providers of taught postgraduate degrees in the UK and has been named ***The Times Best New University*** four times altogether, and three years in a row.



Northumbria has invested significant resources into the development of its campuses. The recent £135 million development, which is home to the School of Design, the School of Law and Newcastle Business School, is a major city landmark that has won numerous awards for its iconic, environmentally friendly, purpose-built premises. Sports facilities keep the university in the **top 10 UK sporting institutions**: in 2010, a new £30m sports complex opened which is now the home of the Newcastle Eagles basketball team.