FACULTY OF EDUCATION

ORAL EXAMINATION
Shari Worsfold

FOR THE DEGREE OF

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION
EdD

Monday, November 30, 2015
SFU Vancouver
Room 2200 at 9:30 AM

EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Chair: Dr. Carolyn Mamchur

Senior Supervisor: Dr. Allan MacKinnon
Member: Dr. Charles Scott
Member: Dr. Margaret McDonald
Member: Dr. Shawn Bullock
Internal/External: Dr. Judith Scott
External Examiner: Department of Education
University of California, Santa Cruz
Supporting Classroom Literacy Instruction for Vulnerable Learners with Reflective Dialogue

ABSTRACT

Vulnerable learners require that teachers know more about how children acquire literacy. This study is about helping teachers reshape the lens through which they see vulnerable literacy learners in order that they can interpret current literacy learning behaviours and scaffold new learning that makes sense to the learner.

To support teachers in refining their instructional practice and the lens through which they see the vulnerable literacy learner, I drew from Donald Schön’s conception of coaching for reflective practice to examine the relationship between theory and practice of a small group of primary teachers. The teachers learned by doing while being coached or mentored by myself as a more experienced practitioner. Using an iPad we recorded lessons that become vehicles for discussion about learning and teaching. We examined the children’s repertoire of responses, interpreting their actions in terms of literacy processing theory and designing a teaching response that built upon what they could already do.

Academic Record

1987- Bachelor of Education, Simon Fraser University
2004- Master of Education, Mt. St. Vincent University

Professional Experience

1988 - 1997 Primary Teacher, Yukon Education
1997 - 2003 Early Intervention/Primary Teacher, Yukon Education
2004 - 2014 Early Intervention Consultant and Reading Recovery Teacher Leader, Yukon Education
2014 - Present Primary Curriculum Consultant, Yukon Education

Recent Conference Presentations

August 2015 Summer Academy, Yukon Education, Whitehorse
April 2014 CIRR Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Conference, Toronto
April 2012 CIRR Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Conference, Toronto
February 2009 National Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Conference, Columbus, Ohio
November 2007 CIRR Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Conference, Toronto
November 2005 Mtn Pacific Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Conference, Langley, B.C.
November 2004 Mtn Pacific Reading Recovery and Early Literacy Conference, Langley, B.C.

Leadership Experiences and Awards

2004-2014 Reading Recovery Teacher Leader – administering Reading Recovery in Yukon and ensuring the Standards and Guidelines are adhered to by Yukon Education Leadership

Institutional Reports and Publications