P-12 Practitioner Scholarship

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R.A.C.E Mentoring

Research: Senior Scholars
Advocacy: Community Organizing
Collaboration: Collective Uplift
Empowerment: Removing Barriers
The Concept

"PRACTITIONERS ARE SCHOLARS TOO"

"Practitioners are Scholars Too": A Critical Conversation on the Mentoring and Mentorship Practices of Practitioner Led Research and Scholarship as a Vehicle for a Revised Educational Research Narrative

Abstract

Initially, this panel symposium was submitted as a Presidential Session. However, we determined that a panel symposium would be the best fit for the audience we are hoping to bring together as we provide opportunity to engage in a critical and much needed conversation on practitioner led research and scholarship. As this session will show, through intentional mentoring and mentorship practices, practitioners in P-12 settings in collaboration with researchers and scholars can lead a new and revised educational research agenda.

Purpose

The purpose of A Critical Conversation on the Mentorship and Mentoring Practices of Practitioner Led Research and Scholarship as a Vehicle for a Revised Educational Research Narrative symposium is to build upon the well-received symposium Scholarship and Research from Within the Trenches (Author, 2017), where practitioners shared their research and scholarship during the 2017 AERA annual conference in San Antonio, Texas. Through the R.A.C.E Mentoring (Research, Advocacy, Collaboration, and Empowerment) social media framework (Ford et al., 2017), this symposium provides a necessary dialogue on the mentorship of P-12 practitioners as scholars and researchers to not only share in the work and research agenda in their settings but also to become an active participant in critical dialogue and discussion on the scope of educational...
P-12 Practitioner Scholarship

P-12 Practitioner has many forms:
- Research on P-12 Practice and Practitioners
- Scholarship about P-12 Practice and Practitioners
- Rarely or Seldom from WITHIN the field itself…
  - “Sadly, the phenomenon of silencing P-12 Educators is not new.” (Ramon Goings)
  - “Seldom is the practicing P-12 Educator, the P-12 Practitioner considered a scholar”. (Aaron J. Griffen)

“Practitioner led researchers construct experiential starting points from which practice follows. They tend to ‘dive in’ to see what emerges” - (Haseman, 2006, p. 4)

“Practice and policy on the other hand are seen as taking place in the ‘real world’, a world based on different forms of knowledge” (Oancea, 2005, p. 5)
R.A.C.E Mentoring and P-12 Educators

Practitioners Contributing to Scholarship

1. Mentoring Practitioners
2. Social Justice Activism
3. Revolutionary Vehicle
4. Advocacy and Voice

- 17/29 are current P-12 educators in practice
  - Faculty Mentoring Practitioners
  - MotherScholar Teacher Activists
  - Infusing Social Justice Into Curriculum
  - Building a Structurally Anti-Racist High School
  - School Communities of Parents as Partners
P-12 Practitioner Research and Scholarship Agenda

1. Collect your daily thoughts to determine your expertise
2. Seek out ways to share your expertise through writing
3. Don’t just attend educational conferences, submit to them
4. Use P.D. presentations as ways to practice and hone your skills to use theory and research.
5. Partner with a scholar you know
Where DO We Fit In?

1. Find Social Media Platforms
2. Seek Out Similar Disciplines
3. Use Graduate Papers
4. Start With Blogs
5. Partner with Other Practitioners
6. Find a Coach Who Specialize in Writing Drafts, Proposals, and Presentations