

the FINE newsletter

A NEWSLETTER OF THE UNIVERSITAS 21
FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING IN EDUCATION (FINE)

From the Editors

Welcome to the first issue of the FINE newsletter. This newsletter is a result of the discussions the FINE group had at the AERA annual meeting in San Diego in April this year. We are hoping that the newsletter can open up a new communication channel between U21 education students, and provide useful information regarding academic and career development. In this issue, you will find:

The recent developments of FINE;

The recent FINE activities at the AERA annual meeting;

An article from Monika Townsend (UVA) who described how her participation in AERA and FINE has helped her to land her dream job;

Upcoming education research conferences, job opportunities, and more...

Happy reading!

Esther and Jonghwi

✧ Introducing FINE ✧

The Forum for International Networking in Education, FINE, is a network of education doctoral students from the Universitas 21. The Universitas



21, or U21¹, comprises 21 leading research-intensive universities in 13 countries.

In 2007, a group of education doctoral students and interested academics met for the first time at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual meeting in Chicago. The group discussed the potential of forming a student network that can help promote

collaboration between U21 universities in the interest of international collegiality and better research.

With support from the U21 Board and Deans of Education, and other

academics, and using the AERA annual meetings as a meeting ground, the group continued to meet in 2008 in New York, and 2009 in San Diego. The meetings provided a means for students from different universities in different countries to meet and find out each others' research interests and exchange ideas.

¹ See page 12 for a list of U21 universities.

MISSION STATEMENT¹

The Forum for International Networking in Education (FINE) is an international group of doctoral students from Universitas 21 Schools of Education that:

- Cooperates and collaborates in order to better understand educational issues from a global perspective;
- Seeks to provide opportunities for social and professional networking; and
- Seeks to promote possibilities for collaborative research and enhanced academic and career prospects.

MEMBERSHIP

There is no fee to join the FINE group. Any U21 education doctoral students and recent graduates are automatically members of the group. To stay in touch with other group members, and find out any FINE activities, enter your details into a password-protected database at www.universitas21.com/Education/FINE.html See page 13 for more details.

THE FINE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Radhika Gorur (Melbourne) has been coordinating the FINE group since its inception in 2007. After three years of outstanding work in developing the group, she has decided to step down from her active role at FINE to focus on the challenge of balancing a demanding full-time job with writing her PhD thesis. Three students, Paula Berneking (UVA), Esther Chan (Melbourne), and Jae Yup Jung (UNSW) volunteered at the AERA meeting to form a leadership team to continue Radhika's work to coordinate and promote FINE.

GOALS FOR 2009-2010

1. Promote conversations between students with common research interests;
2. Increase communication to, and among, members through newsletters and online discussions;
3. Appeal to Deans to help fund early stage graduates to attend international conferences such as AERA and EARLI, and the FINE events associated with them; and
4. Serve as an advisory and advocacy body representing the needs of the FINE community.

¹ The leadership team would like to thank the contributions of the participants at the AERA 2009 FINE discussion forum and breakfasts for their input to the mission statement, goals, and future directions of FINE. The participants at the discussion forum included students from McGill (Shuhua Chen, Jonghwi Park, Carmen Sicilia, and Vicky I-Pei Tung), Melbourne (Jayne Butler, Radhika Gorur, Lay Hoon Seah, and Li Hua Xu), and UBC (Donna Hill), and academics from Fudan (Dr Rongri Lin, Tian Linghu, and Professor Qingnian Xiong), McGill (Dr Robert Bracewell, and Dr Lynn McAlpine), Melbourne (Professor David Clarke), UBC (Professor Robert Tierney), and UNSW (Professor Chris Davison). The contribution of Susan Albaugh (UVA) at the leadership team meeting held before the Tuesday breakfast is also appreciated.



FINE at AERA 2009 San Diego

The recent meetings of the FINE group at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) annual meeting in San Diego (April 2009) were a resounding success, with twelve student participants and eight academics from six different universities (Fudan, McGill, Melbourne, UBC, UNSW, and UVA). Key events included a four hour forum discussion on 12 April, followed by dinner the same night, and two breakfast gatherings on 14 and 16 April.



FINE Forum Discussion

The FINE forum discussion was held at the Omni Hotel on a Sunday afternoon, before the AERA annual meeting began. With a spacious venue, good food and coffee, the group exchanged information and ideas on topics such as doctoral research training in Australia and Hong Kong (Professor Chris Davison, UNSW), post-doctoral career development advice (Dr Lynn McAlpine, McGill), and stories of being a doctoral

student in the United States (Paula Berneking, UVA) and a full-time international student in Australia (Li Hua Xu, Melbourne). Jae Yup Jung (UNSW) shared his hopes and anxieties as a first-time AERA attendee, and Jayne Butler (Melbourne) described the things that she learned from the AERA annual meeting in 2008.

FINE Dinner and Breakfasts

After the forum discussion, participants enjoyed dinner at Candelas, a Mexican restaurant. At the dinner, students and academics mingled and got to know each other. On the second and fourth day of the AERA annual meeting, people enjoyed their coffee and French breakfast in Café Chloe, and discussed their plans for the day, their experiences at the conference, amongst many other things.



Thanks to FINE

Monika Townsend is a PhD student at University of Virginia and working as a Research Analyst at American Institutes for Research. In this article, Monika is sharing her experience on how her participation in AERA and FINE helped her find her dream job.

At AERA in New York in March 2008 I attended every grad-student session I could manage in my schedule. This included not only FINE but also events by my division, the grad student SIG, fireside chats relevant for grad students and the grad student lounge/conference area. I received a barrage of information, and only some of it was relevant for me, since I knew I didn't want to pursue a tenure track career. Much of it was helpful though, and I attribute my success at finding a job at least partially to things I learned last year at AERA. More than once I was told that, despite my aversion to academic career tracks and even though I knew it was still at least a year until I graduated, it was NOT TOO EARLY to begin applying for jobs, or begin networking with potential employers. So I did. I went to the AERA career center, found three jobs worth applying to

online, and submitted my résumé. Unfortunately at that point it was too late, as I now understand that the career center is really set up more for people who submit applications well before the conference, and who are then asked to come in for an interview during the conference. But one of those three jobs I applied for a year ago is the job I have today, and it truly is my dream job.

At first however, I didn't hear anything back from the applications I submitted online, not even acknowledgement. Months passed. Meanwhile the job posting for one of those three jobs continued showing up on listserves and mailings. It was clear the position had not yet been filled. Several people sent me the listing, remarking how closely it matched my skills and interests and I thought, "Yes, well I applied already!" But then a member of my committee sent me the posting. So I looked at the job posting again more closely. Unlike the online application, this association listserv posting had an actual name on it, of a real human being with an email address. I decided to apply again, through email, directly to this person. I did that in June. Human contact was successful



where online applications had not been: they contacted me in July, and the week before my wedding I had a phone interview. Because it was late summer and I was about to get married, it took several weeks for an in-person interview to be scheduled—which was a good thing because I didn't have a presentation ready—they expected me to give a job talk! I scrambled to put one together, delivered it during a grueling day-long interview process in August, and began work on September first.

Some of the advice I would offer to grad students concerned about finding a job, for this group, is preaching to the converted. If you are attending FINE events you are already doing important networking and clearly taking advantage of the opportunities presented by professional conferences. Continue doing so! My story is a good example of

continued...

human contact making a difference. Take notes at presentations, act on the advice you are given, and network. Take business cards, give out your own business cards, even if they are homemade perforated cards printed on your inkjet at home. Learn how to approach researchers whose work you admire, and have discussions with them. Ask them well-informed questions

about their research. This conference is your opportunity to establish personal



contacts with people who will be your potential employers and future colleagues. Some of them are sitting right next to you. When one of my friends from school expressed an interest in working at my company, I knew my company was still hiring. I took his résumé down and hand-delivered it to the HR office myself. This friend is an excellent researcher whose résumé speaks for itself, and I am not presumptuous enough to think that a recommendation from an entry-level junior staff member such as myself carries much weight—but a hand delivery of a résumé is still better than a mailed résumé every time. That friend (who is also a FINE member) started work at my company last week!

Some of the seeds you plant in your job hunt won't bear fruit, but others will. My initial application online accomplished very little. Some other things didn't work either. I saw that the company was having an open AERA reception after I submitted my application, so I decided to attend, again to try to establish a personal connection with someone at the firm.

Unfortunately, I am not very extroverted, so the experience of walking alone into a giant reception where everyone else seems to know each other already was not ideal. It resulted in little more for me than a lovely canapé on a napkin and a plastic tumbler full of ginger ale. I did manage to have a few awkward conversations, even one with someone in my field, but none of those conversations went particularly well and after an hour I left, feeling discouraged. I think most of the people at the reception were there to catch up with each other, they were tired, or feeling harried at the end of a busy day at the conference. None of them were particularly receptive to being approached by a total stranger curious about the company. I think that kind of function is better if you go in already knowing at least someone, who can introduce you around.

Anyway, that is my story. I am now a Research Analyst at American Institutes for Research, and I am still working on my dissertation. While most of my work is related to reading education in the US, I am working on one project using international data. It is an analysis of the cross-national validity of PISA data related to socioeconomic status. Wish me luck with finishing my dissertation, and good luck to all of you as you continue studying and working towards your degrees. Many thanks to the FINE group for the collegiality and helpful information you provided last year. The information we receive, and the contacts we make with others in our field as we attend the many opportunities associated with AERA, including places like FINE events, all contribute in critical ways to our growing understanding of professionalism as we enter the field and begin to make our own way as researchers. Everything I experienced last year was much appreciated and very helpful!

Best,

Monika Townsend

Doctoral student, UVA
Research Analyst, American
Institutes for Research

Conferences

SELECTED UPCOMING CONFERENCES

ALL IN SPAIN

24 TO 26 JUNE

International Conference on
Education, Basque Country

1 TO 4 JULY

International Conference on
Learning, Barcelona

6 TO 8 JULY

International Conference on
Education and New Learning
Technologies, Barcelona

REST OF EUROPE

25 TO 29 AUGUST

European Association for Research
on Learning and Instruction
(EARLI) Biennial Conference
Amsterdam, The Netherlands

28 TO 30 SEPTEMBER

European Conference on
Educational Research (ECER)
Vienna, Austria

AUSTRALIA

29 NOVEMBER TO 3 DECEMBER

Australian Association for Research
in Education (AARE)
Canberra, Australia

FINE IN EUROPE?

Are you planning to be at the EARLI or ECER? If you are attending either of these conferences and would like to be part of a FINE activity, or know someone at your university who is attending and might be interested in FINE participation, please let us know by emailing:

EARLI: David Clarke d.clarke@unimelb.edu.au

ECER: Elizabeth O’Gorman elizabeth.ogorman@ucd.ie

FINE AT AERA 2010

The next AERA annual meeting will be from 30 April to 4 May in Denver, Colorado. The meeting theme is “Understanding Complex Ecologies in a Changing World”. Call for submissions has been posted on 15 May, and closes on **15 July 2009**. Visit www.aera.net for more information. Start your plan to submit a poster or paper to the meeting now so we can meet at the FINE events next year!



Some useful conference listings sites:

www.allconferences.com

www.conferencealerts.com

www.econference.com.au

Career Corner

This section is to provide up-to-date job openings (or links) around the world that might interest you. It includes academic (e.g., tenure-track professor and postdoc posts) as well non-academic jobs (e.g., governments, international organizations). Good luck with your job hunting!

Academic Positions

Australia

Lecturer, Maths Education (Griffith U)

A full time academic appointment is required to research and teach mathematics education across at least two of the following levels of schooling: primary, middle or secondary. In addition, the staff member will contribute to at least one other area in the suite of subjects offered by EPS (GC) for example Information and Communications Technology, Assessment, Health and Physical Education, Science Education, Early Years Education. Application closes 22 May 2009. See www.seek.com.au/users/apply/index.ascx?Sequence=52&PageNumber=1&JobID=15316386

Canada

Assistant Professor in Science Education (McGill U)

The Department of Integrated Studies in Education invites applications for a tenure track position in Science Education at the Assistant Professor rank, effective 1 January 2010. The successful candidate should have appropriate experience in the following: a) teaching school science; b) teaching university science methods courses at the secondary and/or elementary level; c) working collaboratively with schools or community groups; d) conducting scholarly research and publishing in science education. See http://oraweb.aucc.ca/pls/ua/ua_re3?ADVERTISEMENT_NUMBER_IN=9074

Assistant Professor in Mathematics Education (McGill U)

The Department of Integrated Studies in Education, McGill University, invites applications for a tenure-track position in the area of Mathematics Education, at the Assistant Professor rank, effective 1 January, 2010. Applicants must have a doctoral qualification with a focus on Mathematics Education and an active program of research in an area related

to teaching and learning school mathematics. Application closes 1 September 2009. See <http://chronicle.com/jobs/id.php?id=0000599434-01>

Assistant/Associate Professor (Tenure-Track) in Education Studies (U of British Columbia)

The Department of Educational Studies, Faculty of Education, University of British Columbia, invites applications for a full-time, tenure track position. This position is primarily situated in Educational Administration and Leadership and is expected to commence 1 January, 2010. The appointment will be made at the Assistant or Associate Professor level. Application deadline 15 August 2009 or until the position is filled. See http://oraweb.aucc.ca/pls/ua/ua_re3?ADVERTISEMENT_NUMBER_IN=8849

Full-time Instructor (Non-Tenure-Track) (U of British Columbia)

The Department of Educational Studies, Faculty of Education, UBC, invites applications for a one-year full-time position without review (non-tenure-track) with the possibility of renewal to a maximum of three years. This position is primarily situated in Educational Administration and Leadership and is expected to commence 1 September, 2009. The appointment will be made at the Instructor level. Application deadline 1 June 2009 or until the position is filled. See http://oraweb.aucc.ca/pls/ua/ua_re3?ADVERTISEMENT_NUMBER_IN=8848

Two-year Appointment in Inclusive Education (York U)

The Faculty of Education at York University in Canada invites applications for a two-year contractually limited appointment in Inclusive Education. This appointment will be affiliated with the York University Faculty Association (YUFA) and will have the option of a renewable/third year. Applicants are invited to visit the Faculty's website at <http://www.edu.yorku.ca>. The closing date for complete application packages is 15 May 2009. See http://oraweb.aucc.ca/pls/ua/ua_re3?ADVERTISEMENT_NUMBER_IN=8802

Denmark

Associate Professor in Science Education with reference to University Pedagogy (U of Copenhagen)

At the Department of Science Education, Faculty of Science, University of Copenhagen, a position as Associate Professor (or alternatively Assistant Professor) within the field of Science (or Mathematics) Education with reference to University Pedagogy, is open to appointment from 1 September 2009 (or as soon as possible). See www.ind.ku.dk/om/stillingsopslag/associate_professor/

Hong Kong

Professor / Associate Professor / Assistant Professor in Educational Psychology (Hong Kong Polytechnic U)

The Department of Applied Social Sciences in the Hong Kong Polytechnic University invites applications for professor/associate professor/assistant professor in Educational Psychology. The appointee will be required to (a) teach subjects relating to Educational Psychology, particularly in professional practice and assessment subjects; (b) conduct research that leads to publications in refereed journals and award of research grants; (c) provide academic leadership in teaching and research-related activities; and (d) carry out academic and administrative duties as required. See <http://chronicle.com/jobs/id.php?id=0000597375-01>

USA

Full Time Tenure Track Faculty in Early Childhood Program (Chicago State U)

Early Childhood Program at Chicago State University seeks candidates for a full-time tenure-track faculty position, beginning in the fall of 2009. See www.jobtarget.com/link.cfm?c=Mr6Ux1bTwLA3

Assistant/Associate Professor, Master of Science in Instructional Technology Program (New York Institute of Technology at Manhattan)

NYIT's School of Education invites nominations and applications for a full-time tenure track position at the assistant or associate professor rank in the Master of Science in Instructional Technology program. See <http://chronicle.com/jobs/id.php?id=0000599463-01>

Associate/Assistant Professor in Exceptional Education (State University of New York College at Old Westbury)

The School of Education invites applications for a full-time, tenure-track faculty appointment at the rank of Associate/Assistant Professor in Exceptional Education beginning Fall 2009. Salary and rank commensurate with experience and qualifications. Application deadline 8 June 2009. See <http://chronicle.com/jobs/id.php?id=0000599977-01>

Assistant Professor in Educational Foundations (Texas A&M)

Texas A&M University, Kingsville invites applications for a tenure track positions in Educational Foundations beginning in Summer or Fall 2009 on the SAN ANTONIO campus. Responsibilities include Teaching doctoral and/or masters level courses in Historical, Philosophical, Social, Cultural Foundations and/or Educational Research/Statistics; Advising graduate students and serving on dissertation committees; serving on university, college, department, graduate, and doctoral committees; collaborating with area public and private schools and other higher education institutions; providing leadership in educational research; delivering instruction via distance learning technologies (the M.S. is an online program); and working closely with colleagues to attain NCATE accreditation. See www.higheredjobs.com/details.cfm?JobCode=175345046

Assistant Professor in Curriculum & Instruction (Texas A&M)

Texas A&M University - Kingsville invites applications for a tenure track positions in Curriculum and Instruction and Other Education Fields beginning in Fall 2009 on the SAN ANTONIO campus. Responsibilities include teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in Special Education. Supervision of field-based students and or student teachers is likely. Advisement and registration of students is essential. Involvement in campus activities is encouraged. An active research agenda with publications and conference presentations is necessary. Quality performance will be expected in research, student advisement, teaching and University

committee work. See www.higheredjobs.com/details.cfm?JobCode=175302246

Assistant Professor, Special Education, Tenure-Track (Texas State U)

This assistant professor will teach courses in the Special Education program in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction participating primarily in the new master's concentration and corresponding certificate programs of autism/applied behavior analysis and emotional/behavioral disorders/positive behavioral supports. Doctorate or ABD is required. See <http://facultyrecords.provost.txstate.edu/faculty-employment/faculty-employment.html>

Associate Professor Education (Tenure-Track) (U of Massachusetts at Lowell)

Located in the historic industrial city of Lowell, 25 miles northwest of Boston; the University of Massachusetts Lowell offers nearly 12,000 students more than 120 degree choices, internships, bachelor's to master's programs and doctoral studies as well as professional certificates in the Arts, Humanities and Sciences; Education; Engineering; Health and Environment; and Management. The mission of UMass Lowell is to enhance the intellectual, personal and cultural development of its students through excellent, affordable educational programs. Applicants can find more information about the University at www.uml.edu See www.uml.edu/hr/jobpostings/Assistant_Associate_Professor_Education_-_Tenure-Track-Educa.html

Assistant Professor in Mathematics Education (U of Mississippi)

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the School of Education at The University of Mississippi seeks applications for a 9-month, tenure-track Associate/Assistant Professor of Mathematics Education position. Further information and application instructions may be found at <https://jobs.olemiss.edu/>. See <http://chronicle.com/jobs/id.php?id=0000599510-01>

Assistant Professor in Secondary Math Education (U of Nevada at Las Vegas)

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction in the College of Education at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas invites applications for a tenure track faculty position in Secondary Mathematics Education at the Assistant Professor level beginning August 2009. For a position description and application details, please visit <http://jobs.unlv.edu> or call 702-895-2894 for recruitment assistance. See www.higheredjobs.com/details.cfm?jobcode=175370207

Assistant Professor (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee)

The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (UWM) is seeking an individual to serve in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction within the School of Education as a faculty fellow of the Electa Quinney American Indian Education and Policy Studies Institute. See www.jobtarget.com/link.cfm?c=ic6lnpvuHBSO

Postdoc Opportunities

Senior Research Associate (The Educational Policy Institute)

The Educational Policy Institute (www.educationalpolicy.org), a growing nonprofit research and evaluation firm dedicated to the study of issues related to the expansion of quality educational opportunities, seeks a Senior Research Associate. The Educational Policy Institute is located in Virginia Beach, VA, and the successful candidate will be expected to work in that location. For more information, please contact Ms. Patricia Moore Shaffer, Vice President, Research & Development, Educational Policy Institute pshaffer@educationalpolicy.org Application deadline 30 May 2009. See www.airweb.org/page.asp?page=541&job=5415

Postdoctoral Fellowship, Interdisciplinary Postdoctoral Research and Training Fellowship (Educational Sciences (IPoRT) Program)

The Graduate Center, City University of New York (Graduate Center) is accepting applications for two-year postdoctoral research positions through the Interdisciplinary Postdoctoral Research and Training Fellowship in the Educational Sciences (IPoRT) program, funded by a grant from the Institute of Education Sciences (IES). The fellowships have a remuneration of \$50,000 per year plus benefits and support for professional travel. Review of applications will begin immediately continue until the position(s) are filled. Anticipated starting date is 1 August, 2009 (negotiable). See <http://web.gc.cuny.edu/Content/EdPsychology/pages/iport.html>

Research Associate/Data Manager/ Research Analyst (New York University)

The Research Alliance for New York City Schools is an independent, non-partisan research center committed to providing evidence about the challenges of ensuring that all students have access to a high quality education. The Research Alliance currently has four positions available:
* Research Associate - Technical
* Research Associate - Generalist
* Data Manager
* Research Analyst - Technical

Interested candidates should visit the following website for more information, and to officially apply for a position and submit all required materials. Application deadline has been extended to 13 May 2009. See http://steinhardt.nyu.edu/research_alliance/

Research Assistant/Research Associate, Institute for the Development of Educational Achievement (U of Oregon)

The Institute for the Development of Educational Achievement (IDEA), College of Education, promotes and manages research and outreach service activities related to the academic achievement of children and young adults. IDEA is creating an open applicant pool for full time and part time Research Assistants and Research Associates for the 2009-2010 academic

year. Positions are for one year or less, with the possibility of renewal based on available funding, need, and performance. Applications are accepted until 30 April 2010 and considered as needs arise. See <http://chronicle.com/jobs/id.php?id=0000598616-01&pg=s&cc=>

Postdoctoral Research Associate (Utah State University)

The National Center for Engineering and Technology Education (NCETE) at Utah State University is accepting applications for an enthusiastic, hard-working individual to help us achieve our research mission. Our mission is to build capacity in technology education and to improve the understanding of the learning and teaching of high school students and teachers as they apply engineering design processes to

technological problems. The successful candidate will conduct educational research that focuses on infusing engineering design processes into high school settings. Ph.D. in Engineering Education, Technology Education or other related disciplines required. See <http://jobs.usu.edu> (requisition ID 051678) for full job description and to apply online.

Post Doctoral Research Associate, (University of Virginia)

This full-time post-doctoral research associate directs the National Center for Women and Information Technology's (NCWIT) Extension Services for Undergraduates Programs (ES-UP) (www.ncwit.org and www.ncwit.org/es.up.html). See <http://chronicle.com/jobs/id.php?id=0000598801-01>

LINKS FOR NON-ACADEMIC JOBS

A Portal Site of Job Opportunities in the United Nations

This page provides links to the job listing pages of about 40 UN organizations.

Link: <http://icsc.un.org/joblinks.asp>

The United Nations e-Staffing System

This is the online HR system that everyone has access to. You can search for jobs, create your own account, and build your own Personal History Profile (PHP), which is a required document to apply for any UN position.

Link: <https://jobs.un.org/Galaxy/Release3/Vacancy/Vacancy.aspx>

ChroniclesCareers provides a list of very interesting articles about non-academic careers for PhD, such as The Academic Path to Hollywood, Lessons for the Academic Introvert, The Truth about the Nonacademic Job Search, to name a few.

Link: http://chronicle.com/jobs/sidecol_library/nonacademic.htm

You might also like to visit the official job site of the ***US Federal Government*** (www.usajobs.gov) or the ***Government of Canada*** (<http://jobs-emplois.gc.ca>).

Visit the FINE website on Ning.com for other scholarship and job listings, and useful career development resources on the internet. See page 14 for more details.

Postdoc scholarships and funding

Below is a list of postdoctoral scholarships that could be of interest to you.

INTERNATIONAL

IFUW International Fellowships and Grants

The International Federation of University Women offers a limited number of international fellowships and grants to women graduates for postgraduate research, study and training. IFUW fellowships and grants are open only to women graduates who are members of IFUW's national federations and associations and to IFUW Independent Members. The awards may be used in any country other than the one in which the applicant was educated or habitually resides. Link: www.ifuw.org/fellowships/international.shtml

AUSTRALIA

NCVER Building Researcher Capacity Fellowships

The aim of these fellowships is to build researcher capacity through promoting the use of the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER) data on the vocational education and training sector, including data on students, apprentices and trainees, and student outcomes. The fellowships are directed to researchers in any of the social science disciplines who are working on topics covering the vocational education and training sector and its links with the labour

market. These fellowships are offered on an ongoing basis. There is no closing date. The value of the award is between AUD \$10,000 and AUD \$20,000. Applicants must have a host institution.

Link: www.ncver.edu.au/resources/resinfo/building.html

CANADA

Killam Postdoctoral Research Fellowships at UBC

The goal of the fellowship is to bring outstanding junior researchers to The University of British Columbia. The fellowships are awarded for a maximum of two years, subject to review at the end of the first year, and include a stipend of CAD \$46,000 per annum and a maximum research and travel allowance of CAD \$6000 for the tenure of the award. The number of awards varies between six and 12 per year.

Link: www.grad.ubc.ca/awards/index.asp?menu=015,000,000,000

SINGAPORE

National Research Foundation Research Fellowships

The National Research Foundation (NRF) Research Fellowship (RF) Scheme is a globally competitive programme to attract and recruit young scientists and researchers to conduct independent research in Singapore. The NRF Research Fellowship is open to all areas of science and technology with no quota on specific disciplines. Young, talented post-doctoral fellows of all nationalities are welcomed to apply. Each Research Fellow will be

provided with a research grant of up to US\$1.5 million over three years, with the option of a second round of three-year funding provided at the discretion of NRF, to support projects that exhibit high likelihood of a research breakthrough.

Link: www.nrf.gov.sg/nrf/otherProgrammes.aspx?id=142

USA

Fulbright Program

The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government and its designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. The Fulbright Program provides participants - chosen for their academic merit and leadership potential - with the opportunity study, teach and conduct research, exchange ideas and contribute to finding solutions to shared international concerns.

Link: <http://fulbright.state.gov>

Spencer Foundation

The Spencer Foundation aims to cultivate knowledge and new ideas about education that will ultimately improve students' lives and enrich society. The Foundation pursues its mission by awarding research grants and fellowships and by strengthening the connections among education research, policy and practice through the Spencer Forum.

Link: www.spencer.org

Grad Student Life

"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com



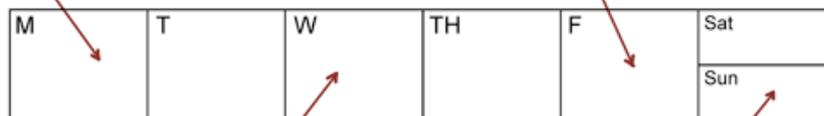
WHEN TO MEET WITH YOUR ADVISOR Is there ever a good time?

Beginning of the week

- Pro:** Get it over with quickly
- Con:** You have a guaranteed date with work on Sundays

End of the week

- Pro:** You might actually have something to show by then.
- Con:** You might not (!)



Mid-week

- Pro:** Good balance. Gives you time to work on feedback
- Con:** Your advisor will probably not show up (actually, this might be a pro)

Saturday/Sunday

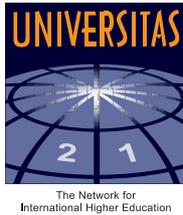
- Pro:** There is no "pro".
- Con:** Your advisor is a workaholic maniac. Good luck with that.

JORGE CHAM © 2006

Addicted to computer screens?

Are you worried that you have been staring at the computer screen for too long? Get the computer to help you! *Time Out* www.dejal.com/timeout/ (for Mac) and *Workrave* www.workrave.org (for Windows) are programs that can remind you to take micro-pauses and rest breaks at adjustable intervals. Workrave can even show you what stretching exercises to do during breaks. It might get annoying after some time though, when you have totally succumbed to the urge to stare at the computer screen.





Who belongs to the U21?

The following are the member universities of the Universitas 21:

AUSTRALIA	University of Melbourne University of New South Wales (UNSW) University of Queensland (UQ)
CANADA	McGill University University of British Columbia (UBC)
CHINA	Fudan University Shanghai Jiao Tong University (SJTU)
HONG KONG SAR	University of Hong Kong (HKU)
INDIA	Delhi University (DU)
IRELAND	University College Dublin (UCD)
JAPAN	Waseda University
MEXICO	Tecnológico de Monterrey
NEW ZEALAND	University of Auckland
SINGAPORE	National University of Singapore (NUS)
SOUTH KOREA	Korea University (KU)
SWEDEN	Lund University
UNITED KINGDOM	University of Birmingham University of Edinburgh University of Glasgow University of Nottingham
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	University of Virginia (UVA)

Visit www.universitas21.com/index.htm for more information about U21 and its member universities.

FINE Contacts

There are many ways to stay in touch with the FINE members all over the world. Besides the official FINE website, you can also find the presence of FINE in other corners of the world wide web.

FINE OFFICIAL WEBSITE

www.universitas21.com/Education/FINE.html

FINE @ GRADUATE JUNCTION

Brian Ullman from the University of Virginia has set up an online group forum “Universitas 21 - Education” for members of FINE. Graduate Junction is a webpage that brings together Masters, PhD and Postdoctoral researchers from across disciplines and around the world. The webpage allows users to create a personal research profile page, establish a network of researchers who share similar research interests, join or create online research groups, initiate discussions and exchange useful tips, search up to date conference and career information relevant to users, and share general research advice. To participate in the FINE forum, visit www.graduatejunction.com and register as a researcher. Upon registration, search for “Universitas 21” under Groups.



The
Graduate Junction

FINE @ FACEBOOK

If you are on Facebook, why not join the FINE group that has been set up by Jenny Arnold from the University of Melbourne? Search for the group “U21 Postgraduate Students in Education” to join.



THE FINE LEADERSHIP TEAM

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ACADEMIC FACILITATORS AND ‘FRIENDS OF FINE’

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Seeking FINE contact person

FINE is looking for students who are interested in promoting FINE at individual universities. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Paula.

WAIT, THERE IS MORE!



To view more photos from the FINE events at AERA 2009, find out more conference and job listings, or look up other resources, visit <http://u21-fine.ning.com>. This Ning social network group has been set up and tailored to the needs of FINE members. If you sign up, you can also share photos, post discussions, get to know other FINE members, and even chat with some of them online.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE NEWSLETTER

The next issue of the newsletter is scheduled for September. Contributions to the newsletter are most welcome and can be sent to Esther at m.chan9@pgrad.unimelb.edu.au before **Friday 4 September 2009**. Ideas for contributions include, but are not limited to:

- Thoughts and/or photos from the FINE events during the 2009 EARLI or ECER conferences, or any other previous FINE events.
- Tips on how to manage life as a graduate student (e.g. making the most of conferences, time management, dissertation writing, publishing, and job hunting (academic or non-academic)).
- Thoughts, inspirations, jokes, or interesting stories as a graduate student, recent graduate, or post-doc.
- Website links or resources that you might know to search for upcoming conferences, call for papers, or jobs.
- If you are planning to travel to any of the U21 cities/countries in the next couple of months and would like to let others know.

Basically, send us anything that you would like to share with other education doctoral students. The newsletter will not be complete without your voice. Comments and feedback are also welcome.

FINE NEWSLETTER EDITORS

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An electronic version of this publication is available from www.universitas21.com/Education/FINE.html