



The Gulf Comparative Education Society

**Symposium Program**  
Global Innovation, Local Transformation: Trends & Reactions

Day one: Saturday March 24 <sup>th</sup>		
8:00	<b>Registration open</b>	Registration Area
9:00	<b>Welcome to Bahrain</b> (H.E. Dr. Majid bin Ali Al Nuaimi, <i>Minister of Education of Bahrain</i> )	Main Hall
9:10	<b>Introduction to GCES</b> (Dr. Ali Ibrahim, <i>GCES President</i> )	
9:20	<b>Education Reforms in Bahrain</b> (H.E. Sheikh Hisham Bin Abdulaziz Al Khalifa, <i>Undersecretary for Resources and Services, Minister of Education of Bahrain</i> )	
9:30	<b>Plenary</b> <b>David Guile</b> ( <i>Institute of Education, University of London</i> ) - The Knowledge Economy, Creativity and “Projectification”: reconceptualising the role of, and the relation between, professional and vocational learning in the Gulf States	
10:15	Coffee break	Pre-function Hall
10:30	<p><b>Panel 1: Education Reforms in Bahrain</b> <i>Chair – Timothy A. Coble</i></p> <p><b>Ian R. Haslam</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) – Does One Shoe Fit All? The ‘Prescription-Professional’ Conundrum in Bahrain</p> <p><b>Amjad Abuloum</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) – Obstacles Towards the Use of ePortfolio by Students at Bahrain Teachers College</p> <p><b>Nina Abdul Razzak</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) – The Missing Link: Teachers' Professional Development and Implementation in the Bahraini Classroom</p> <p><b>Hanada Taha-Thomure</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) - Diagnosis of the Status of Arabic Language Instruction across Public Schools in Bahrain</p>	Main Hall
12:00	<p><b>Panel 2: Technology &amp; Innovation</b> <i>Chair – Prof. David Guile</i></p> <p><b>Mark Olson</b> (<i>American University of Sharjah</i>) – How E-Learning is Redefining Liberal Arts in GCC Countries</p> <p><b>Michael Lightfoot</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) - ICT and Innovative Teaching and Learning - what's the connection?</p> <p><b>Nader Alyani</b> (<i>Institute of Education</i>) – Learning and innovation via ‘skill webs’: exploring a knowledge-based strategy for the emerging learning economies of the Gulf</p>	Main Hall
13:00	<b>Lunch Speaker</b> (Kevin Simpson – <i>World Class Education News</i> )	Dining Hall



The Gulf Comparative Education Society

14:00	<p><b>Panel 3: Student Participation in Education: Trends &amp; Reactions</b>  <i>Chair – Dr. Ian R. Haslam</i></p> <p><b>Timothy A. Coble</b> (<i>American School of Doha</i>) – Schools of Purpose for Boys of Purpose  <b>Natasha Ridge &amp; Samar Farah</b> (<i>Al Qasimi Foundation</i>) – The 30%: Factors Influencing Male Participation in Higher Education in the UAE  <b>Kaltham Al Kenaid</b> (<i>Knowledge &amp; Human Development Authority</i>) - Higher Education in Dubai: Pathway to the Future</p>	Main Hall
15:30	<p><b>Breakout Session 1: Systems &amp; Standards in GCC Schools</b>  <i>Chair – Dr. Thuwayba Al Barwani</i></p> <p><b>Christina Gitsaki</b> (<i>Sharjah Women’s College</i>) – Raising English Language Education Standards for Emirati High School Graduates: The Road Ahead  <b>Christopher Green</b> (<i>Quality Assurance Authority for Education and Training</i>) – Sustaining Improvement - Global Perspectives on Outstanding Leadership in Schools  <b>Sonia Ben Jaafar &amp; Ayesha Khan</b> (<i>EduEval</i>) - Evaluating the Use of Learner Response Systems in the GCC</p>	Breakout Room 1
15:30	<p><b>Breakout Session 2: New Scholars Panel</b>  <i>Chair – Dr. Jason E. Lane</i></p> <p><b>Serena Bearman</b> (<i>George Washington University</i>) - Innovations in Teaching Methodologies and their applicability in the Gulf  <b>Maria V. Chatila</b> – Back to School – The Study of Relationships and Academic Achievement  <b>Sami A. Mansoor</b> (<i>Qatar Ministry of Education</i>) – The Use of E-portfolio as an alternative evaluation tool for Children in Primary Schools (<b>ARABIC</b>)  <b>Jehan Al-Mannai</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) - Teachers' Perspective towards the Effectiveness of National Standards of English Language Programs in one of the Intermediate Girls Schools in the Middle East</p>	Main Hall
15:30	<p><b>Breakout Session 3: Transforming Science Curricula</b>  <i>Chair – Michael Lightfoot</i></p> <p><b>Ziad Jishi</b> (<i>University of North Texas</i>) - The Use of Concept Maps to Assess Conceptual Understanding and Misconceptions in Pre-Service Elementary Teachers in Science  <b>Faten Abdel-Hameed &amp; Salah Emara</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College and University College Bahrain</i>) - Adoption and Implementation of the New Primary Science Curriculum in Bahrain: Preliminary findings  <b>Myint Swe Khine &amp; Faten Abdel-Hameed</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) - A Review of Science Textbooks in Bahrain: Preliminary Findings</p>	Breakout Room 2
17:00	END	
19:00	<b>Gala Dinner</b> – Crowne Plaza Hotel	Main Hall



The Gulf Comparative Education Society

**Day Two: Sunday March 25<sup>th</sup>**

9:00	Reflections & Voting for Incoming GCES Vice President	
9:30	<p><b>Featured Panel</b>  <i>Chair – Dr. Daniel Kratochvil</i></p> <p><b>Mark Bray</b> (<i>The University of Hong Kong</i>) – Approaches and Methods in Comparative Education: Selecting Units for Analysis  <b>Thuwayba Al Barwani</b> (<i>Sultan Qaboos University</i>) - Presenting the Innovation Wheel: Towards Systemic Sustainable Innovations in the Gulf</p>	Main Hall
10:45	Coffee break	Pre-function Hall
11:15	<p><b>Panel 4: Teaching Pathways: Challenges &amp; Opportunities</b>  <i>Chair – Prof. Mark Bray</i></p> <p><b>Ruba Tabari</b> – Education Reform in the UAE: An Investigation of Teachers' Beliefs and Views of Change and Factors Impeding Reforms in Schools in Ras Al Khaimah  <b>Samar Farah &amp; Natasha Ridge</b> (<i>Al Qasimi Foundation</i>) – Payoffs to Private Tutoring in the UAE: A Gendered Affair  <b>Stephen C. Anderson</b> (<i>Zayed University</i>) – Perceptions of Pre-service Teachers from Zayed University and the New Course Blocking System</p>	Main Hall
12:45	<b>Lunch</b> (Poster Presentations by Bahrain Teachers College Faculty and Students)	Dining Hall
14:00	<p><b>Breakout Session 4: Trends &amp; Innovation in Higher Education</b>  <i>Chair – Dr. Jason E. Lane</i></p> <p><b>Daniel Kratochvil &amp; Joice Priya</b> (<i>Wollongong University</i>) - Localizing Transnational Higher Education: A review of Academic Adaptations to the Gulf Region  <b>Juliana G-Mrabet</b> (<i>Dar Al Hekma College</i>) - Higher Education for Women in Saudi Arabia: Contemporary Perspectives and the Role of Tradition  <b>Salha Issan</b> (<i>Sultan Qaboos University</i>) – The Role of Sultan Qaboos University in Serving the Community  <b>Darbi L. Roberts</b> (<i>Columbia University</i>) - Innovations in Regulation and Quality Assurance in the Arabian Gulf: New Directions in Policy Implementation</p>	Breakout Room 1



The Gulf Comparative Education Society

14:00	<p><b>Breakout Session 5: Adapting &amp; Innovating Education in the GCC</b>  <i>Chair – Dr. Ali Ibrahim</i></p> <p><b>Fatma El-Hamyani</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) – Needs of Educational Reform at the Academic Level and its Implication in the Arabian Gulf (<b>IN ARABIC</b>)</p> <p><b>Ghadah Morshedi</b> (<i>UAE University</i>) – Academic Socialization: A Comparative Study of the Experiences of Emirati and Saudi Students in US</p> <p><b>Hasan Al Wadi &amp; Vanitha Sarayanan</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) - An investigation of teachers’ epistemological beliefs: a desired paradigm shift in pedagogical action within Bahraini schools</p>	Main Hall
14:00	<p><b>Breakout Session 6: The State of Science Education in Bahrain</b>  <i>Chair – Kevin Simpson</i></p> <p><b>Kaltham Al-Shomili, Noora Al-Shaikh, Maryam Shaikh</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) - The Impact of Context-Based Learning on Primary Five Students' Academic Achievements and Attitudes Towards Science: Preliminary Findings</p> <p><b>Shaikha Jassim, Abrar Janahi, Lulwa Al-Majid</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) - The Effect of Using Well-Equipped School Science Labs on the Aminah Bint Wahab and Tulaitela Girl's Primary Schools Students' Learning</p> <p><b>Zahra Ahmad, Sakeena Hamada, Masooma Al-Khayat</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) - The Relationship Between some Primary Students from Government Schools in Bahrain, Attitudes towards Science and their Academic Achievement</p> <p><b>Aysha Al-Juri, Mariam Faraj</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) - The Effect of Applying Learning Styles on Al-Khansaa Primary Girls' School Grade 4 Student’s Learning</p> <p><b>Aqeela Saleh, Zahraa Radhi, Wadea Ali</b> (<i>Bahrain Teachers College</i>) - The Effect of using Science Learning Centers on the Attitudes towards Science for Primary 5 Students in Amina Bint Wahab Girl's School</p>	Breakout Room 2
15:30	<p><b>Closing Remarks &amp; Announcement of New GCES Board Members</b></p>	Main Hall