

Name and position

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Biography and Short CV

My research agenda is driven by the thing I am most passionate about and that is student achievement in religious education through holistic engagement and deep learning. Learning in religious education has the potential to transform lives and learned people transform society in significant ways. My research program explores certain areas pertaining to the advancement of successful student learning. These areas include leadership in religious education and leadership in faith-based schools. Leadership in these areas demands all the education skills and expertise required of educational leadership in other schooling systems and contexts as well as the ability to integrate the faith and religious culture of the school within an educational environment. Effective leadership is oriented towards successful student achievement and my research explores key dimensions of leadership that are integral to leaders and aspiring leaders. The leadership dimensions under investigation in my research include: spiritual leadership, religious leadership, faith leadership, ministerial, curriculum leadership and educational leadership. Teachers and the formation of teachers is also extremely relevant to successful student achievement and my research also encompasses the professional growth of pre-service and in-service teachers through reflective practices such as peer review.

Research and interest fields

Leadership and Religious Schools (e.g. Leadership and religious schools: International perspectives and challenges, 2013)

Reflective Practice and Religious Education (e.g. Pre-service teachers' perceptions of the benefits of peer review, 2012)

Religious Values and Culture (e.g. The impact of cultural religious Values upon Pre-service teachers perceptions of their role as educators in Catholic religious schools, 2011)

Curriculum Change in Religious Education (e.g. Managing curriculum change in religious education: An inside perspective from school leaders in religious education, 2010)

Ministerial dimension of RE leadership (e.g. Ministerial leadership: A dimension of leadership in religious education, 2011)

Spiritual dimension of RE Leadership (e.g. Attending to the spiritual dimension to enhance curriculum change, 2010)

Student Learning in Religious Education (e.g. Learning beyond the surface: Engaging the cognitive, affective and spiritual dimensions within the curriculum, 2008)

Current projects

Supporting leaders and aspiring leaders for leadership in religious education

Leadership and Religious Schools

The interplay between cognitive, affective and spiritual dimensions of learning in religious education.

Reflective practice and the formation of RE teachers: peer review approach

Bibliography

Books

Edited Books

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Monographs

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- Buchanan, M. T. (2012). What Has Faith Got To Do With Classroom Religious Education? *Journal of Religious Education*, 60(1), 23-30.
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Conference presentations

Refereed Abstracts

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