



JACOBS FOUNDATION CONFERENCE MARBACH CASTLE, MAY 17–19, 2017

# Education in Times of Increasing Cultural and Linguistic Heterogeneity

# WELCOME

Dear Participants,

A warm welcome to Marbach Castle and to the 2017 Jacobs Foundation Conference on *Education in Times of Increasing Cultural and Linguistic Heterogeneity!* The theme of the conference addresses one of the most urgent challenges for a rising number of nation states: The integration of increasingly diverse societies. Education is a keystone of this integration. We as educational researchers have the opportunity to be part of this huge and challenging endeavor by contributing empirical evidence to the public and political debate. This conference thus aims to bring together and discuss evidence from different disciplines on the provision of high quality education for a culturally and linguistically diverse student body in order to have a stronger voice in this debate.

This conference is the outcome of a unique venture. The Jacobs Foundation invited a group of young scholars of the College of Interdisciplinary Education Research (CIDER; [www.cider-web.org](http://www.cider-web.org)), to organize its annual conference. CIDER was founded in a joint effort of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, the Jacobs Foundation and six Leibniz Institutes to support early post-doctoral researchers. CIDER's major goals are the promotion of the early independence of young researchers and the advancement of interdisciplinary collaboration in educational research. Young researchers from educational science, psychology, sociology, and economics were given the opportunity to apply for a three-year program. A first cohort of 30 post-doc fellows started in 2013, a second in 2016. The College's activities include interdisciplinary discussions and workshops on theories and methods of the key disciplines as well as funding of interdisciplinary projects. The program was supported by a number of senior researchers from the cooperating institutes, who acted as mentors, research partners and teachers.

Based on our interdisciplinary experiences in CIDER, we expect surprises and deep insights, understanding as well as misunderstanding, loud arguments and silent approval — and most certainly new impulses and ideas for all of us during our time together at Marbach. We hope to tackle some of the most urgent questions and address some of the challenges related to school education in times of increasing cultural and linguistic heterogeneity.

We are grateful for valuable advice from the group of CIDER senior fellows, especially from Petra Stanat und Eckhard Klieme, in organizing this conference. But above all, we would like to thank the Jacobs Foundation not only for their support of CIDER but also for giving us the opportunity to organize this conference and for being our host in Marbach.

Hanna Dumont  
Johanna Fleckenstein  
Dominique Rauch

Aileen Edele  
Débora B. Maehler  
Janna Teltemann

## EDUCATION IN TIMES OF INCREASING CULTURAL AND LINGUISTIC HETEROGENEITY

Migration movements around the globe have reached a historic peak: In 2016, 60 million people fled worldwide. People from Syria, Iran and other countries are currently seeking refuge in Europe and there is no reason to expect that this trend will come to an end in the foreseeable future. The current as well as previous international migration movements lead to growing immigrant populations in many western countries—and to pressing demands of their incorporation. One of the most important issues is the integration of immigrants and their offspring in the education system, as educational achievement and attainment are key determinants of success in the labor market and participation in society more generally. This means that teachers, schools and the education system as a whole face a considerable responsibility, which becomes all the more challenging in times of increasing cultural and linguistic heterogeneity.

The conference aims at exploring the most relevant current and future research questions in the field of education pertaining to increasing cultural and linguistic heterogeneity. The aim is to engage in a different kind of intellectual enterprise: an interdisciplinary conference with a strong topical focus and thoroughly selected, dedicated participants who will work together for two and a half days in order to determine condensed results and directions for future research.

In a first step, experts will establish a common ground for discussions by clarifying key concepts, such as culture, diversity and heterogeneity, and their role in education (Session 1). In a second step, the conference will focus on different dimensions of heterogeneity, namely linguistic heterogeneity (Session 2) as well as cultural (e.g. religious or value-related) heterogeneity (Session 3). The conference will also address the specific demands that the integration of newly arrived immigrants poses on the education system (Session 4).

Presenters in all sessions are asked to share their account of the state of the art as a catalyst for discussions of where research should go. Going beyond mere analysis, implications for educational practice in heterogeneous educational settings should be identified. While the individual sessions will focus on key issues of current research, the overall conference aims at enabling intense, open discussions and new collaborations.

# PROGRAM OVERVIEW

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2017

- 17:00–17:15 Welcome
- 17:15–19:00 Opening session: Education in times of increasing cultural and linguistic heterogeneity
- 19:00 Dinner

## THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017

- 09:00–10:30 Session 1: Clarifying key concepts and their role in education
- 10:30–11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00–12:30 Session 1 (continued)
- 12:30–14:00 Lunch
- 14:00–15:00 Session 2A: Linguistic heterogeneity: Analysis of the situation
- 15:00–15:30 Coffee Break
- 15:30–17:15 Session 2B: Dealing with linguistic heterogeneity in education
- 18:00–19:00 Cocktails & Young Scholar Program: Open Space for generating research ideas
- 19:00 Dinner

## FRIDAY, MAY 19, 2017

- 09:00–10:15 Session 3A: Cultural heterogeneity in education: Challenge or resource?
- 10:15–10:45 Coffee Break
- 10:45–12:00 Session 3B: Dealing with cultural heterogeneity in education
- 12:00–13:30 Lunch
- 13:30–14:30 Young Scholar Program: Presentation of research ideas
- 14:30–15:00 Coffee Break
- 15:00–16:30 Session 4: Integrating newly arrived immigrants
- 16:30–17:00 Coffee Break
- 17:00–18:00 Closing Session
- from 19:00 Cocktails and Barbecue

## SATURDAY, MAY 20, 2017

Departure

## PROGRAM

### OPENING SESSION

**Wednesday, Mai 17th, 2017, 17:00–19:00**

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Education in times  
of increasing cultural  
and linguistic  
heterogeneity

#### CHAIR

**CIDER Fellow organization team**

#### CONTRIBUTIONS FROM

**Adam Gamoran**

William T. Grant Foundation, USA

**Tom Good**

University of Arizona, USA

#### DESCRIPTION

The aim of the opening session is to have a broad introduction to the conference theme by having brief inputs on how educational systems have typically dealt with student heterogeneity in the past and on how schools and teachers can deal with student heterogeneity in a more productive way. Moreover, the conference organizing team will present urgent questions related to the conference theme to set the stage for the discussions of the conference.

### SESSION 1

**Thursday, Mai 18th, 2017, 9:00–12:30**

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Clarifying key  
concepts and their  
role in education

#### CHAIR

**Janna Teltemann**

#### CONTRIBUTIONS FROM

**Fons Van de Vijver**

Tilburg University, The Netherlands

**Paul Mecheril**

Carl von Ossietzky University of Oldenburg,  
Germany

**Eckhard Klieme**

German Institute for International  
Educational Research, Germany

#### DESCRIPTION

Given the complexity of the conference theme and the heterogeneity of the conference participants, Session 1 aims at establishing a common ground for interdisciplinary discussions by clarifying key concepts, such as culture, diversity and heterogeneity, and their role in education. All participants are invited to discuss single concepts in smaller groups. After collecting summarized results from the groups, experts from different disciplines will present their respective accounts of these concepts.

**SESSION 2A****Thursday, Mai 18th, 2017, 14:00–15:00**

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## Linguistic heterogeneity: Analysis of the situation

**CHAIR****Dominique Rauch****CONTRIBUTIONS FROM****Orhan Agirdag**

University of Leuven, Belgium

**Paul Leseman**

Utrecht University, The Netherlands

**Petra Stanat**Institute for Educational Quality Improvement  
& Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany**DESCRIPTION**

In Session 2A, we would like to gain insight into the current state of research concerning the effects of linguistic heterogeneity on learning and education processes.

**SESSION 2B****Thursday, Mai 18th, 2017, 15:30–17:15**

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## Dealing with linguistic heterogeneity in education

**CHAIR****Johanna Fleckenstein****CONTRIBUTIONS FROM****Piet Van Avermaet**

Ghent University, Belgium

**Catherine E. Snow**

Harvard Graduate School of Education, USA

**DESCRIPTION**

In Session 2B, we would like to discuss how best to deal with linguistic heterogeneity in education. After brief presentations of already existing promising practices, all participants are asked to generate new ideas for dealing with linguistic heterogeneity during a small group work.

**SESSION 3A**

**Friday, Mai 19th, 2017, 9:00–10:15**

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Cultural heterogeneity  
in education:  
Challenge or resource?

**CHAIR**

**Débora B. Maehler**

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM**

**Fenella Fleischmann**

Utrecht University, The Netherlands

**Karen Phaet**

Leuven University, Belgium

**DISCUSSION MODERATOR**

**Fons Van de Vijver**

Tilburg University, The Netherlands

**DESCRIPTION**

In Session 3A, we will address and discuss the question whether cultural heterogeneity is a challenge or a resource for educational processes.

**SESSION 3B**

**Friday, Mai 19th, 2017, 10:45–12:00**

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Dealing with cultural  
heterogeneity  
in education

**CHAIR**

**Hanna Dumont**

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM**

**Jürgen Budde**

Europa-University Flensburg, Germany

**Lyn Corno**

Columbia University, USA

**Mary McCaslin**

University of Arizona, USA

**DISCUSSION MODERATOR**

**Petra Stanat**

Institute for Educational Quality Improvement  
& Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany

**DESCRIPTION**

In Session 3B, we would like to “think outside the box” by having the contributors present their personal utopias and visionary ideas on how to deal with cultural heterogeneity in schools.

## SESSION 4

Friday, May 19th, 2017, 15:00–16:30

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# Integrating newly arrived immigrants in the education system

## CHAIR

**Débora B. Maehler and Johanna Fleckenstein**

## CONTRIBUTIONS FROM

**Herbert Brücker**

Institute for Employment Research &  
University of Bamberg, Germany

**Cornelia Kristen**

University of Bamberg, Germany

**Linda Juang**

Potsdam University, Germany

**Carola Suárez-Orozco**

University of California, USA

## DESCRIPTION

In Session 4, we will first analyze the diverse circumstances of newly arrived immigrants through short presentations and then discuss how new arrived immigrants can best be integrated in the education systems.







**Jacobs Foundation**

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