

Initiative for Democratic Education in the Americas - IDEA

260 – 2747 E. Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC, V5K 1Z8, Canada

Tel: 604 708 1495, ext 115, e-mail: ssewart@idea-network.ca, web: idea-network.ca

Teaching for Transformation:

International Forum on Liberating Pedagogies, and Resistance to Neo-liberalism in Education

A seminar of the IDEA Network/Red-SEPA

April 12-13, 2012, Vancouver, BC, Canada

The forum will examine how neo-liberal economic and social policies are affecting education and pedagogical practices and frame alternatives to these policies. The focus will be on understanding the nature of neo-liberal education policies in different parts of the globe, their impact, forms of resistance, and pedagogical alternatives that are empowering and emancipating.

Participants will be researchers and activists from teacher unions and academic researchers who focus on teachers' work and teachers' unions, and students. Most participants will be from the Americas – North, Central, South as well as the Caribbean. However, we hope to also include some participation from Europe, Africa and Asia.

Simultaneous Spanish-English translation will be provided throughout the event.

The structure of the seminar will be panel presentations, followed by working sessions in two languages.

This seminar will precede the conference of the American Education Research Association being held in Vancouver, Canada, from April 14-17, 2012

The number of participants will be limited by the need for simultaneous translation and the desire to provide a space for in-depth dialogue. The IDEA Network anticipates about 25 participants from Latin America and the Caribbean. There will be room for up to 60 other participants.

More information:

Steve Stewart. Technical Secretary, IDEA Network/Red-SEPA (ssewart@idea-network.ca)

Hosted by the British Columbia Teachers' Federation

IDEA--Initiative for Democratic Education in the Americas (idea-network.ca)

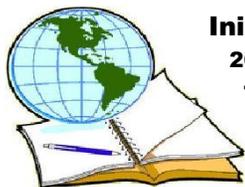
Red-SEPA--Red Social para la Educación Pública en las Américas

The IDEA Network/Red-SEPA is an alliance of teacher unions, student organizations and other groups advocating for public education in the Americas--South, Central and North. It coordinates research on education issues in the Americas, holds conferences, issues research reports and publishes a journal on education *Intercambio*. It also coordinates campaigns that have common themes across regions.

The organization's web site is at www.idea-network.ca/ideas/english/home.cfm;

Facebook: Idea Network- Red SEPA

Sub-networks of IDEA include the Research Network and the Indigenous Educators' Network



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Agenda: Teaching for Transformation

April 12, 2012

8:30 Registration

9:00 Inauguration – Susan Lambert, BCTF
- Steve Stewart - IDEA

9:30 Neo-liberal education policies and practices--what do they look like in the South and North?

- * What are the key elements of neo-liberal education policies in each region?
- * How do neoliberal policies affect the nature of the work of teaching and the role of the teacher?
- * What ideological impact are they having in the classroom?
- * What are the mechanisms used to spread neo-liberal policies? How can these be countered?

Presenters: Larry Kuehn, North America, Fanny Sequiera – Central America, Edgar Isch – South America, Mary Compton – Europe (15 min each ½ hour discussion). Moderator? _____

11:00 - Break

11:15 Forms of resistance to neo-liberal education policies.

- * Role of teachers and teacher unions in social movements and education alliances
- * Role of teachers and teacher unions in elections
- * Use of collective bargaining, strikes and other union tools in resisting neo-liberal policies

Presenters; Rafael Feliciano – Puerto Rican Teachers' Front, David Chudnovsky – Great Schools Project - Canada, Guillermo Castellanos - Sección 22 Oaxaca, Mexico, Rene Ramirez – SUTEP. (15 min each ½ hour discussion) Moderator? _____

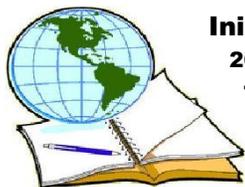
12:45 – Lunch

14:00 Examples of successful resistance-Students in Defense of Public Education

From Chile to Colombia, to Honduras and Quebec, students by the tens of thousands in many countries of the Americas have moved to the forefront of the struggle to defend public education. How has the student movement been able to push back the neoliberal offensive? What are the new strategies they employ? To what degree are new student movements linked at the international level?

Presenters: Daniel Carbo – Latin American and Caribbean Student Organization (OCLAE), Paul Floor – CONFECH Chile, Kevin Paul - *Coalition large de l'ASSÉ* (CLASSE), Quebec, Sara Avila - Frente Accion Revolucionaria de Secundaria en Honduras (FARSH), Moderator? _____

15:00 - Break



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15:15 – Working groups – 3 groups, each with facilitator and recorder

Short presentation in each followed by discussion based on guided questions regarding pedagogical work in each organization:

Group 1: Non-Sexist Pedagogy and Chilean Pedagogical Movement: Moderator: _____

Recorder: _____

Group 2: Indigenous Popular Education and the Amazonian Alternative Pedagogical Project

Moderator: _____

Recorder: _____

Group 3: Education for Emancipation Movement in Venezuela and Pedagogical Circles of Colombia

Moderator: _____

Recorder: _____

17:00 – Forum concludes for the day

19:00 – “Teaching for Transformation” Public Event

Intro for IDEA: either Larry Kuehn or Mariluz Arriaga

Speakers: María Patricia Quintana Martínez – Sección 18, México, Mary Compton – UK, Miguel Angel Duarte - Pedagogical Movement CTERA Argentina, María Patricia Quintana Martínez – Red Estrado, Brazil (or Juliana Fonseca de Oliveira Neri, Paulo Freire Institute, Brazil). Moderator? _____

April 13, 2012 (9am to 5 PM)

9:00 - Continuation of Working Groups: Preparation of presentations to plenary

10:30 – Break

10:45 – Plenary session to present reports from working groups

(about 12:20 – orientation for next group works session on Approaches to sharing pedagogical work)

12:30 – Lunch

1:30. Working Groups - Approaches to sharing pedagogical work

A discussion of the role of teachers' organizations (and other sectors of the education community) in developing, promoting and sharing alternatives to the neoliberal ideological offensive within schools (administration, methodology and curriculum).

- Same 3 groups as before

3:15 – Break

3:30 – Plenary session – Reports on conclusions of working groups/ Discussion of future work

Moderator?: _____

5:00 – Closing remarks

5:30 - Adjournment