Integration of Research, Teaching, and Knowledge Exchange

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A Difficult Choice?

- Research
- Teaching
- Services (including knowledge exchange)
A Difficult Balance?
My Experience

- Five examples of “No or low budget but high impact” collaborative research projects that can integrate research, teaching, services
- Conditions for the integration
- Challenges and Opportunities
Collaboration with Community Partners
Example One

- Project-based learning
  - 9 secondary schools
  - 2300 students (Grades 7, 8, & 9)
  - 200 teachers
Research Questions

- Do high achievers and low achievers benefit equally from PBL?  
  – Cheng, Lam, & Chan (2008)

- How does teachers’ motivation relate to students’ motivation in PBL?  
  – Lam, Cheng, & Ma (2009)

- What school contextual support can enhance teachers’ motivation to implement PBL?  
Impacts

- Contributions to the literature
- Excellent learning experience for HKU students
- Implications for
  - Teachers
  - Students
  - School systems
Who did the donkey work and who paid the bills?

- Liaison
- Conceptualization
- Staff development workshops for teachers
- Data collection
- Data entry (research internship program)
- Data analyses
- Report writing
- Journal manuscript preparation
Example Two

- Community Integration of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD)
  - 380 parents of children with ASD in 22 special preschool centers
  - 214 parents of children with typical development
Research Questions

- How do parents feel about participation in community activities?

- What are their coping strategies?
  - Wong, Lam, Leung, Ho, & Au-Yeung (2014)
Impacts

- Contributions to the literature
- Excellent learning experience for students
- Implications on practice: Manual for teachers and parents
Example Three

- Paired Reading Project
  - 195 preschoolers and their parents from 10 preschools
    - Experimental group (n = 101)
    - Control group (n = 94)
Research Questions

- What is the effects of the program on
  - Children’s reading ability
  - Children’s reading motivation
  - Parent-child relationship
  - Parents’ self efficacy in parenting
  - Lam et al. (2013)
Impacts

- Contributions to literature
- Excellent learning experience for students
- Instruction Manual for Paired Readers (2014)
- The beneficiaries are not limited to the children, parents, teachers in the 10 YWCA kindergartens. Other schools benefit from our project.
Example Four

- Pioneering Service Delivery Model for Preschoolers with special needs
Impacts

This pioneering project heralded the launching of the Pilot Scheme on On-site Preschool Rehabilitation Services by the Government in November 2015.
International Collaboration
International School Psychology Association (ISPA)

Example Five

36th ANNUAL CONFERENCE of International School Psychology Association (ISPA)

CHILDREN’S RIGHTS AND NEEDS: CHALLENGES TO SCHOOL, FAMILY, AND SOCIETY
15–18 JULY 2014, VYTAUTAS MAGNUS UNIVERSITY, KAUNAS, LITHUANIA
Instructional Contexts
- Challenge
- Real Life Significance
- Curiosity
- Autonomy
- Recognition
- Evaluation

Social Relatedness
- Teacher Support
- Parent Support
- Peer Support
- Peer Aggression

Motivational Beliefs
- Goal Orientations
- Attribution
- Self-efficacy

Affective Engagement
- Liking for Learning
- Liking for School

Behavioral Engagement
- Effort in Learning
- Involvement in School Activities

Cognitive Engagement
- Deep or Meaningful Processing

Positive Outcomes
- Academic Performance
- Emotional Functioning
- Conduct

Contextual Factors

Personal Factors

Student Engagement in Schools

Student Outcomes
Impacts

- School Engagement Project
  - Lam et al. (2012)
  - Lam et al. (2014)
  - Lam et al. (2016)

- Contribution to the literature

- Implications on intervention
  - Lam & Law (2014)
  - Lam & Tong (2014)


**Conditions for the Integration**

- **Long Term Relationship & Trust**
  - Long time services
  - Mutual benefit
  - Fairness
  - Shared vision

- **Formulation of Research Questions**
  - Real questions that can address the concerns of the community partners and contribute to the existing body of knowledge.

- **Build a strong Research Team with Students**
  - See them as real research collaborators
  - Provide them with hands on experience in research
Challenges & Opportunities

- Are community partners difficult to identify for some disciplines?
- What other difficulties do you anticipate?