

Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study Laboratory School Connections

2022-2023 Year in Review

Multi-month/Ongoing Memberships and Commitments

- < Chriss Bogerts a member of the board for the International Association of Laboratory Schools (IALS)
- < In 2021-2022, Chriss chaired an IALS Research Collaboration

ed the IALS 2023

Annual Conference, which will take place at JICS in April 2023

- < Krista Spence is a member of the board for the International Association of Laboratory Schools (IALS) and is currently serving as the IALS 2023 Annual Conference Chair. She is also a member of the board for the International Association of Laboratory Schools (IALS) and is currently serving as the IALS 2023 Annual Conference Chair.
- < Krista Spence is a member of the board for the International Association of Laboratory Schools (IALS) and is currently serving as the IALS 2023 Annual Conference Chair. She is also a member of the board for the International Association of Laboratory Schools (IALS) and is currently serving as the IALS 2023 Annual Conference Chair.
- < Suzanne Schweng is a volunteer on Saturday mornings with the Early Childhood Smart Start program for young children, ages 6 years (September - June, Weekly)
- < Suzanne Schweng joined the Orff Professional Learning Community which meets monthly in-person and online with music teachers from the GTA and beyond who share teaching strategies and explore broad themes such as equity and diversity (October - May, Monthly)
- < Tara Rousseau is a member of the board for the International Association of Laboratory Schools (IALS) and is currently serving as the IALS 2023 Annual Conference Chair.
- < Tara Rousseau is the president of the LGBTQ+ Interest Group in the National Art Education Association (NAEA)

Research in the Lab School for 2022 -2023

The Lab School is committed to research that explores what is possible in education and how children learn best. The Lab School fosters a strong community of researchers and teachers working collaboratively, with the aim to strengthen understanding of best developmentally appropriate practices in the education of children (ages 3-12). The Lab School research program often includes projects with our teachers as collaborators, co-designers, or primary investigators. We receive many applications for research each year from within the University of Toronto, and from researchers and institutions across the globe. [Information about applying to do research in the Lab School can be found on our website.](#) Research projects must first pass through an [ethical review process from the](#)

[University of Toronto](#) or their own institution, and then are vetted and approved by the JICS Lab School Child Research Committee. The unique nature and reputation of the Lab School is a significant draw for researchers when applying to the Lab School as a potential setting for their research. Priority is given to proposals consistent with and supportive of the goals of the Lab School: exemplary education for elementary school children, teacher education, and educational research. The Lab School also looks for research that builds upon our three philosophical tenets of security, child development, and inquiry. The JICS Lab School makes a significant contribution to the education, human development, and applied psychology work within our university, in the wider educational community in Canada, and internationally.

The JICS Lab School has supported the following research studies this year:

- ◁ Literacy and self-regulation development in play -based kindergarten

This research is being conducted by Dr. Angela Pyle who was the Interim Director of JICS for 2020-2023, a Professor in the MACSE program, and a former Kindergarten teacher herself. The objective of this research study is to describe the enactment of play-based learning in full day kindergarten classrooms and the connection between play and the acquisition of literacy and self-regulation skills. This is responding to the need to support teachers in finding the optimal balance between play, development, and academic learning in Ontario classrooms while also fostering social emotional wellbeing. This study addresses these concerns by focusing on the implementation of curriculum in Ontario classrooms and how it contributes to children's literacy (literacy) as well as in self-regulation. Specifically, this study seeks to explore variations in the implementation of play-based pedagogies in kindergarten classrooms; determine the impact of varying implementations on the development of academic (i.e., literacy) and developmental (i.e., self-regulation) skills; and provide an empirical foundation for bridging the academic-developmental rift.

study.

- ◁ **Designing and Implementing Environmental Inquiry Strategies in Early Years Programs** This research is being led by Dr. Monica McGlynn Stewart, Professor and colleague at the George Brown School of Early Childhood, in collaboration with

Indigenous communities and decision makers on how Canadian schools may reciprocally enter into more meaningful relationships with Indigenous people in ways that are of benefit to Indigenous communities while also meeting the systemic responsibilities of schools. The research will explore experiences, perceptions, possibilities and challenges involved in centering Anishinaabe and other Indigenous principles and aspects of culture in the learning process at an elementary lab school. The research is being conducted with the Lab School staff, inviting them to participate in an introductory talking circle, voluntary individual interviews, followed by a debriefing circle at the conclusion of the study. The Lab School has been on a path following an emergent exploration of learning in non-Indigenous schools, in ways that ethically and more deeply engage with Indigenous people and the TRC's Calls to Action for education.

- < Digitally -Mediated Group Knowledge Processes to Enhance Individual Learning
This SSHRC funded research led by Drs. Marlene Scardamalia and Carl Bereiter, esteemed OISE professors and leading

learners encountered difficulties in the online learning environment. This study is now published in a special edition of the IALS Journal and underscores the importance of prioritizing security and attachment needs during any future complex and challenging learning circumstances. The principal investigator was OISE PhD student Melissa Kang collaborating with researchers Dr. Anne Claude Bedard, Christine Bogert, Richard Messina, Elizabeth Morley, and Dr. Rhonda Martinussen.

The Lab School is very grateful for the valuable contributions of all members of the JICS Lab School Child Research Committee. A special thank you to Elaine Lam (parent of children in Grade 2 and Grade 5) for her continuing role as the parent representative on this committee since 2018.

For more information about Research in the Lab School:

<https://www.oise.utoronto.ca/jics/research-at-the-lab-school/>

Or contact Chriss Bogert, Vice Principal and Chair of Child Research Committee

chriss.bogert@utoronto.ca

Summer 2022

Dissemination:

- ◁ Tara Rousseau was a conference planner and presenter at the National Art Education Conference (July 2022) & was part of a conference planning committee led by NAEA Chief Learning Officer Tara Rousseau.

Professional Development:

- < Krista Spence attended Engaging Educators and Youth in Indigenous Land% DVHG / HDUQLQJ' WKURXJK 1DWXUDO & XULRV ENAGB. This program is for educators who wish to deepen their own inquiry into the ecology of Natural Curiosity, growing a learning environment where educators and students experience themselves in relationship with the Land and each other in community. This fully outdoors offering took place at the Humber River teaching lodge with a group of Indigenous youth from ENAGB.
- < Suzanne Schwenger attended a two-day workshop called What's in a Song: Unpacking the Songs that We Teach, offered through Oscar Peterson School of Music, by Kim Friesen Wiens. The workshop explored how we can decolonize our music classes and bring music from different cultures in a respectful way that honours its traditions.

Late -August/ September 202 2

Dissemination:

- < Richard Messin is a panel member at the Lab Schools Europe Conference Bielefeld

Khokhar (award-winning TDSB teacher and equity consultant) analyzes this concept in the context of thinking about local/global positionalities, critically considering how we

- < JICS staff visit Humber River with Doug Anderson. Doug is an alumni parent, author of Natural Curiosity 2nd Edition, and a wonderful Indigenous scholar and educator who has been teaching the JICS students outside in the land.
- < Natural Curiosity attendees

Parent Education:

- < Meeting and Advocacy Space for Parents of JICS BIPOC Children. Parents have created a safe space for parents of BIPOC children to discuss the impact on our children, and as a means to collect and convey our observations, our needs as racialised families, and any advice to the school around equity and inclusion. Going throughout the year.

October 2022

Dissemination:

- < Tara Rousseau presents at The Emergence Conference, hosted by CSEA (Canadian Society for Education through Art) and OAEA (Ontario Art Education Association) in 2022. The conference was held on October 7-8, 2022.
- < David Osorio and Chris Bogert present in the MACSE (OISE: UofT) program on "Child Study, Problems of Practice, and the EDE Program"
- < Ben Peebles and Carol Stephenson present at the MACSE (OISE: UofT) program on Classroom Management
- < Ben Peebles and

- < Natural Curiosity Guest Lecture for MA-CSE (OISE: UofT) Childhood Education Seminar

Professional Development:

- < Ellie Lathrop participates in Roots of Empathy training
- < Krista Spence attends the Center for Leadership and Diversity third-annual School International Conference
- < Krista Spence participates in a Twitter 'space' broadcast by Ontario School Libraries Association, called 'The Learning Library Commons, Digital Skills and Tech Titans'.
- < Krista Spence attends a virtual workshop hosted by David A Robertson and Natural Curiosity. The workshop explored outdoor learning, Indigenous perspectives and building a relationship with the land you are learning on.
- < Tara Rousseau attends and presents at The Emergence Conference, hosted by CSEA (Canadian Society for Education through Art) and OAEA (Ontario Art Education Association) in Ottawa, Ontario.
- < Tania Debss attends a virtual workshop organised by AFO (O 1 \$ V V H P H O p H Francophonie O 1 2 Q) W Cause au sujet des peuples et des communautés autochtones" in partnership with ACFSDG

- < Natural Curiosity delivers workshop in collaboration with York Region District School Board (YRDSB) **Workshop: Ethical Leadership through the Arts and Environmental Justice**
- < Natural Curiosity presents at **3 & RQQHFWLQJ ZLWK & RPPXQLWLHV (GX)** Justice in School **CPXQLWLPW 2, 6 (TV DQQXDO & RQIHUHQFH LQ** Sustainability Education

Visitors:

- < Lian Novak from Waldorf School visits JICS.
- < Julia Murray (Head of Royal Oak School) visits JICS.
- < Dr. Huang Yao and Dr. Wu Yingjen (National Chengchi University, Taiwan) visit JICS.

Professional Development:

- < Ben Peebles and Krista Spence attend **the National Council of Teachers of English Conference (NCTE) in Anaheim, California** A conference by literacy educators, for literacy educators.
- < JICS staff participated in **Forest Therapy Workshop** with Ben Porchuk in the JICS courtyard. Ben Porchuk has over two decades of experience in wildlife biology and ecology, nonprofit management, environmental consulting, and sustainable living.
- < JICS staff take part in a tour with Ken Monaghan **XH RI 3 \$ V : H 5 LV H from the WRJUDS % ODFN \$ at the University College Art Centre (UofT).**
- < Natural Curiosity attends **8 R I 7 : R U N V K R S 3 5 H I O H F W L Q J R Q , Q G L J H Q F \$ F N Q R Z O H G J H P H Q W V**
- < -, & 6 \$ 7 7 + (0 2 9 , (6) X Q G U D L V H U I R U W X L W L R Q V X S S R U W 7 D O N followed by Q&A with Director and Writer Sarah Polley. Innis College Theatre
- < -, & 6 \$ 7 7 + (0 2 9 , (6) X Q G U D L V H U I R U W X L W L R Q V X S S R U W followed by Q&A with Producer Damon D'Oliveria, Author David Chariandy, Author Lamar Johnson **at Innis College Theatre**

Parent Education:

- < JICS Parent Education: **Connected Parenting and Anxiety Workshops: The Importance of Connection, How to Build a Meaningful Relationship with your Child, and How to Help them Manage Feelings of Anxiety** Presented by Ulrica Jobe **Parent Coach, Child & Family Counsellor, Connected Parenting Therapist, Founder of True Compass)**
- < "Lunch and Learn" with Ellie Lathrop and Christel Durand **titled "A Deficit of Rest ± The mental health benefits of creating space for calm and rest."**

December 2022

Dissemination:

- < David Osorio featured in a blog post for **Robertson Inquiry Based Teaching in Math and Science** **Z H E V L W H 3 6 H O H F W L Q J D Q G ([F H S W L R Q D O % R R N / H D U Q L Q J**
- < Natural Curiosity speaks at the Ontario Association of Deans of **EE&S Round Table.**

- ◁ Natural Curiosity workshop in collaboration with York Region District School Board (YRDSB) ±Secondary Professional Learning Community with Geography and Science educators

Professional Development:

- ◁ APHD Research Gala.

Parent Education:

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Education in Chile)

- < Chriss Bogert, Richard Messina, and Dr Eunice present research at Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics (CAAL/ACLA) Conference (York University, Toronto) 0 D \
- < Walker Kitchens is featured in OISE News and Stories in article titled "Teacher Appreciation Week 2023" 0 D \
- < NaturalCuriosity facilitates Workshop at the Take Me Outside (TMO) Conference in Banff, AB.
- < NaturalCuriosity facilitates

- < Walker Kitchens completes AQ Course Special Education Part 1 Elementary Focus (PK12-SPEC1E, OISE, UofT)
- < JICS staff partake in 3, Q W H Q W L R Q D O O \ ' H V L workshop to plan, map, and imagine the 2023 V F K R R O \ H D U \ V L P S R U W D Q W V F K R R O Z L celebrations.
- < JICS Staff are lead by Krista Spence and David Osorio in a workshop that looks back and reflects on place based education at JICS during the 2022-2023 school year. This workshop was based on the workshop if.6 638.7 Tm 0 g 6f