Florida International University
College of Education
Invites you to attend a presentation by
Dr. Kerryann Walsh
Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, Australia

Faculty Research Forum
Wednesday, August 31, 2011
12:30 – 2:30 p.m.
Dean’s Conference Room
Light lunch will be served.
Please RSVP to Maria D. Gonzalez
at mdgonzalez@fiu.edu

Teachers’ Reporting Child Sexual Abuse: Insights from an Australian Study

This seminar features work undertaken by researchers at the Queensland University of Technology, funded by the Australian Research Council. The large-scale mixed-method study investigated primary (elementary) school teachers’ reporting of child sexual abuse in three Australian jurisdictions. The study had 4 components: legal research and analysis (examining legislation and case law); policy analysis (examining school-based reporting policies); analysis of data from CPS regarding teachers’ reporting of child sexual abuse; and a comprehensive teacher survey. The study’s findings show that teachers make a valuable contribution to identifying cases of child sexual abuse and proposes seven key areas for enhancement of law, policy and practice for child protection.

Dr. Kerryann Walsh is a Senior Research Fellow in the Centre for Learning Innovation in the Faculty of Education at Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in Brisbane, Australia. Kerryann’s research is cross-disciplinary and focuses on understanding society’s responsibility to protect children, and how to prevent child maltreatment and address its negative consequences. Her current research program aims to enhance child maltreatment prevention and reduce child victimization and family violence through education. She is currently working on studies relating to child sexual abuse prevention programs, mandatory reporting of child abuse and neglect, educational consequences of child abuse and neglect, and teacher training for child protection. Her research teams have won 2 Australian Research Council competitive grants (2005 and 2009). In 2010 she received the honor of a prestigious 3-year Vice-Chancellor’s Research Fellowship (which has enabled her to be here at FIU).

Dr. Kerryann Walsh
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