

24 February 2021: Teachers as Agents of Change: Supporting, Enabling, and Empowering

Speakers and moderators biographical notes



Moderator/Speaker: Dr David Frost is an Emeritus fellow of Wolfson College, Cambridge and a founder member of the Board of Trustees, HertsCam Network. As a member of the University of Cambridge Faculty of Education from 1996-2016, his research and teaching focused on educational leadership and school improvement. At Cambridge, David was one of the co-founders of the Leadership for Learning Network. He also founded the International Teacher Leadership initiative with partners in twenty countries. He has developed strategies to support teachers as agents of change playing key roles in the creation and transfer of professional knowledge. He has published widely and continues to publish and address audiences of school principals, teachers and educational leaders around the world.



Speaker: Dr Rima Bezede has a background in Psychology and teacher education in Moldova. She has worked at Prodidactica Education Centre since 2007 and is now its President. Her mother tongue is Romanian, but she also speaks English and Russian. Along with colleagues at Prodidactica, she joined the International Teacher Leadership in 2009 and has played an active role in supporting and facilitating non-positional teacher leadership in Moldova. In 2015 she completed a doctoral study on teacher leadership and graduated from Moldova State University.



Speaker: Saule Kalikova is a Policy Advisor. Her positions have included: research officer with the Research Institute of Pedagogical Sciences, a specialist at the Department of Education Development Strategy, an advisor to the Education Committee of the Parliament of the Republic of Kazakhstan. She has extensive experience as a national expert in a variety of international projects and has assisted the Government of Kazakhstan on educational reform. Saule is the author and co-author of the numerous policy papers and recommendations addressed to the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan. She joined the Soros Foundation Kazakhstan in 1995 as a training coordinator, subsequently becoming a director of education programs, a director of Education Policy Analysis Centre, an advisor on education policy and then policy advisor.



Speaker: Dr Amina El Temamy is an educational consultant and director of CairoCam Network, the affiliated network to the HertsCam Network, UK. Amina taught in schools in Cairo, Egypt before attending the University of Cambridge, where she completed her PhD. Her doctoral study focused on the development of a programme to support non-positional teacher leadership in Cairo. She then founded the CairoCam Network and re-launched her programme following her graduation in 2018. Amina speaks English and Arabic.



Speaker: Diane Campkin is a teacher of very young children in the first stages of primary education at Wormley Primary School, Wormley, Hertfordshire in the UK. She worked in industry before qualifying to be a teacher in 2014. She joined a HertsCam programme hosted by her school which enabled her to lead teacher-led development work projects. She subsequently became a facilitator for other early childhood education practitioners in the region. In 2018, she joined the HertsCam MEd in Teaching and Learning programme and, soon after graduating, joined the MEd teaching team.



Speaker: Zhanybek Batyr is a teacher of physics in school 83, Nur-Sultan city, Kazakhstan. He started his teaching career in a rural school located in Akmola region. Zhanibek joined the Teacher Leadership in Kazakhstan (TLK) initiative as a teacher-participant in 2019. Through his development project, Zhanibek attempted to help his colleagues adapt to remote teaching and learning, but his project ended up having a nationwide impact during the pandemic. In 2020, he was promoted to a vice-principal for teaching and methodology. He is currently acting as a facilitator and providing support to the new cohort of teachers, who joined the TLK initiative in 2020.



Moderator/Speaker: Dr Gulmira Qanay is a postdoctoral scholar at the Nazarbayev University Graduate School of Education (NUGSE). She is an alumna of “Talap,, and “Bolashak,, international scholarships. She has obtained PhD in Education at the Faculty of Education University of Cambridge (UK) and MA in Educational Leadership and Management at the Institute of Education University of Warwick (UK). Gulmira's current research interests include leadership, financing and social justice issues in schools in Kazakhstan. Gulmira is also actively promoting the university - school partnerships and providing support to school-based professional learning in Kazakhstan.



Speaker: Dr Matthew Courtney is an educational research specialist from New Zealand currently working as an assistant professor at the Nazarbayev University Graduate School of Education in Kazakhstan. He completed his PhD in Education in 2015 from the University of Auckland, New Zealand. Since then, he has worked as a research fellow in both New Zealand and Australian universities though now resides with his family in Kazakhstan. Matthew's areas of thematic interest include student assessment, higher education, youth/adult program evaluation, educational measurement and statistics, and R Markdown and R Shiny applications. Matthew enjoys applying various statistical models to educational data for the purpose of gaining insights, building theory, and informing policy and practice in both the developed and developing world.



Moderator: Gita Steiner-Khamsi, Professor of Education at Teachers College of Columbia University, USA and Professor in Interdisciplinary Programmes at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Switzerland and Director of NORRAG and the KIX EAP hub.



Moderator: Marina Dreux Frotté is Programme coordinator at NORRAG, and the KIX EAP Hub Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Focal Point. Marina Dreux Frotté has extensive expertise in conducting research and applied policy research on the topic of innovative financing for education (IFE). She has recently co-authored a comprehensive literature review on the IFE sector and a case study on the Educate Girls Development Impact Bond.

Partner institutions

