CHALLENGES FOR COMMUNITY WORKERS’ TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: THE NIGERIAN CASE

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*ABSTRACT:* Cases abound of community projects abandoned due to community members’ lacking professional guidance in the initiation and implementation stages of community development projects. In order to unravel the problem, the Federal Ministry of Health and Human Services, Community Development, in 1992, prepared curricula for the training of community development workers in the federation. This paper assesses the impact of the training programmes on the professional development of community workers in Oyo State, Nigeria. Participants in the study consisted of trainees, trainers, sponsors and community leaders. The study, through trained interviewers, employed an in-depth interview method in eliciting information. Secondary data such as documents, curricula, Government records were also used in the study. Analysis of data was carried out using qualitative methods. Findings revealed that community development has been adopted in Nigeria as a veritable instrument for achieving national development. The study also revealed that the curriculum content of the training courses was relevant to the community development objectives in the social development policy for Nigeria and that participatory techniques adopted were suitable for the training programme.

ADULT EDUCATIONAL AND MORAL POWERS OF WOMEN IN INDIGENOUS AFRICA

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*ABSTRACT:* Women of different ages and calling had many powers in the traditional and pre-colonial African community. Those powers permeated all aspects of life in the community but were mostly associated with education and religious rites because of the interconnectedness of everything with education and religion. Almost all social, religious, educational, and even economic institutions dovetailed within the complex traditional society where living and learning were synonymous. This paper focuses on the Ogu and Yoruba traditional communities of West Africa where women had absolute rites and related powers in several of the institutions of their respective communities. Using the author’s knowledge and experience in addition to the works of other African writers, this paper explores the adult educational, moral, religious, and related powers of women in indigenous Africa.
WORLD AFFAIRS OUTREACH EDUCATION: ONE PIECE OF THE KNOWLEDGE CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

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ABSTRACT: This qualitative interpretive study explored how learners perceived they constructed knowledge in connection to their participation in three world affairs outreach programs: the changing global order, the Katyn massacre, and Russia. The study findings suggest that learning spaces, past regional experiences, and roles are central to learners’ knowledge construction process. The findings contribute to our understanding of knowledge construction and constructivist learning theory and suggest a tension between the individual and the social.

PLANNING PROGRAMS FOR THE ELDERLY: EXAMPLES FROM THE ACTIVE AGING CENTERS

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ABSTRACT: The purpose of the study was to analyze the curriculum of Active Aging Learning Resources Centers (AALRCs). The study applied Howard McClusky’s concept and theory of education for older people. The subjects were chosen from one third of 202 AALRCs. The study applied content analysis to analyze selected curriculum. The results of the study revealed that interest courses (56%) followed by the basic courses (31%), service courses (12%) and life courses (1%) are the major types found in the AALRCs curriculum provided in terms of total hours and percentage. The findings of the study show that the courses offered by AALRCs lack balance, fundamental theory, and connection between learners, objectives, and curriculum. Suggestions regarding future curriculum planning, policy and research are provided.

REFLEXIVE DESIGN FOR INTERNATIONAL/CROSS-CULTURAL ADULT AND HIGHER EDUCATION: THE CASE OF SHORT-TERM STUDY ABROAD

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ABSTRACT: This paper provides the results of a research study that investigated the design and learning reflections of a short-term study abroad program based on facilitative adult learning theory and practice. Findings into the unique nature of the interrelationships inherent in this community of practice offer insight for developing effective learning activities and program design.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE MOTIVATION FOR INTERNATIONALIZING CURRICULUM SCALE (MICS)

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ABSTRACT: Faculty members are instrumental in internationalizing the curriculum in a higher education institution. Their favorable or unfavorable orientation toward global education initiatives might significantly affect their engagement to internationalizing the curriculum. The Motivation for Internationalizing Curriculum Scale (MICS) aims to assess college professors’ motivation toward internationalizing the curriculum. Internationalizing in higher education implies the integration of international, intercultural or global dimensions in curriculum, instruction, research, and service functions in postsecondary institutions. The MICS was administered to a national random sample of 418 college professors. The findings revealed the dominant intrinsic and extrinsic motivational factors that may influence faculty motivation for internationalizing the curriculum.
A CAPSULE OF THE HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF ANDRAGOGY to 2010

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ABSTRACT: This paper on the History and Philosophy of Andragogy is mainly limited [with a few exceptions] to a chronological history and the accompanying philosophy of andragogy, in line with when the English language documents were published and personal descriptions of events were written down. Some of these documents, however, present aspects of the events and ideas which recount the years and contexts prior to the time in which they appeared in published form. To date, more than 300 documents have been discovered, but space limitations in this paper allowed the inclusion of only a fraction of that number. Each of 14 time periods are articulated with selected works.

TOWARD AN ACTIVE AGEING SOCIETY: VALUE RECONSTRUCTION AND PERFORMANCE EVALUATION OF PROFESSIONAL WORKERS

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ABSTRACT: Due to the rapid changes in the ageing society in Taiwan, the aim of this article is to discuss the following themes: (a) issues regarding the changing social values among the elderly and the transformation of the ageing image in the society of Taiwan; (b) three new dimensions for elderly and the new image of an ageing society; (c) the five approaches to reconstructing a new social value system; (d) with the above newly-build construction, this study furthermore intends to combine the views from professionalization to set up a list of indicators for performance evaluation with which the professionals would be able to examine the adult educational organisations in the field. Document analysis, focus group interviews, and Delphi technique were used to gather the types of information and data needed. These methods are also used to design a list of indicators for performance evaluation in adult educational organisations. The results of this study show the types of social values that need to be changed in which elderly should not be regarded as dependants. Instead, they are individuals who still love and are able to devote themselves to the society. As researchers in the field we look forward to seeing more professional workers, with lucid ideas and professional perspectives, creating a decent learning environment for the elderly. Last, the list of indicators for performance evaluation could be widely used as a useful tool in terms of evaluating adult educational organisations in Taiwan.

KOREAN LIFELONG EDUCATION RESEARCH: A CONTENT AND AUTHORSHIP ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT: The concept of lifelong education has received continuous attention from educators and policy makers since its emergence in 1972. However, the concept is so general that it is still ambiguously defined among scholars and used differently in diverse contexts. In order to map the areas of lifelong education, this paper provides a content analysis of the Korean Journal of Lifelong Education in terms of authorship (single/multiple and the countries of final degree obtained), methodology (qualitative, quantitative, and theoretical approaches), and research topics. Research topics are inductively coded and analyzed. The results suggest that (a) a more articulated research topic framework of lifelong education is required; (b) more in-depth knowledge about methodology is needed in Korean lifelong education research and; (c) the outcomes need to be compared with journals from other countries and other academic fields.
FACTORS THAT PROMOTE TRANSFORMATIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCES AMONG INTERNATIONAL ADULT LEARNERS FROM SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

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ABSTRACT: International adult learners from Sub-Saharan Africa pass through different phases of learning experiences as part of their journey to achieve academic success. Research has investigated factors that promote transformative learning experiences of international adult learners from Sub-Saharan Africa in an American university. The paper will address questions such as transformative learning, pre-arrival transformative learning, and factors that promote transformative learning of international adult learners from Sub-Saharan Africa.

A LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM FOR EMERGING SOCIAL INNOVATORS

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ABSTRACT: This paper describes a leadership development program, entitled ASCENT, designed to engage multicultural youth and young adults in identifying innovative ways to address social and economic needs. It features strategies for equipping multicultural participants with leadership competencies geared towards social innovation. It discusses the logic model that guided the design of the ASCENT program. The logic model explores multiculturalism in Canada, the program’s assumptions, investments, activities, outputs, and outcomes. This paper extends the literature on leadership development approaches, mentoring, and social innovation. Social entrepreneurship is suggested as a potential vehicle for encouraging innovation; promoting inclusion; and reducing out-migration, which occurs whenever social and economic needs are not met.

THE MIDDLE- AND OLD-AGED PEOPLE’S LEARNING PARTICIPATION IN TAIWAN: THE RESULTS OF A NATIONAL HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

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ABSTRACT: Through rapid increase of the aged population, the average life expectancy of human beings has been consistently postponed. The development of elder education in Taiwan has gradually infused an educational perspective into the pervious orientation of welfare service dominated by government. However, still lacking was a comprehensive overall study of learning among the aged in Taiwan. This study applied the 2008 database of adult education investigation in Taiwan and Fukien areas and analyzed the learning participation situation of mid-old aged individuals, aged 45 or above. The results found that first, the learning participation declined with an increase in age. Only 11.4% of people aged 65 and above participate. Second, participation motivations of mid-old aged people are primarily for cognitive interests and vocational advancement while it would turn to cognitive interest only with the increase of age. Third, participation barriers of learning are mainly situational. With an increase in age, the ratio of dispositional barriers increase. Fourth, females under age 65, and with higher education background and income, are more likely to participate in learning activities. Several recommendations for practice are provided.
TRANSCEENDING THE LOCAL: IDENTIFYING EFFECTIVE TECHNICAL EXECUTIVES’ LEADERSHIP BEHAVIORS AND ATTRIBUTES FOR THE GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE ERA

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ABSTRACT: "What are the behaviors and attributes that enable individuals to become successful executives at NASA?’ was the underlying question of NASA’s 2010 study, Executive Leadership at NASA: A Behavioral Framework (Williams, Derro, Jarvis, & Morris). Participants included NASA executives who served at some point in their NASA careers as technical managers of projects requiring systems development, possessed a systems engineering orientation, and successfully applied those talents and behaviors in their executive roles—who in other words were “Technical Executives.” Identified behaviors and attributes were clustered into six themes: leadership, attitudes and attributes (including executive presence), communication, problem solving and systems thinking, political savvy, and strategic thinking. NASA is using study results to enhance development of these critical behaviors via learning and development activities including classes, knowledge sharing, coaching and mentoring. These findings may also be applicable to technical executives in other organizations, industries and countries. Among findings are specific examples of problem solving and systems thinking behaviors used to deal with complex workplace problems. These results provide real-world descriptions that may help researchers better understand systems thinking, a progressively more important capability in dealing with the globe’s ever increasing complexity. In this paper I will describe the NASA executive behavior study, its approach, method, results, recommendations, and implications, as well as a follow up study engaging a group of international executives. The purpose is not only to share results, but also to initiate a broader dialogue on effective technical executives’ capabilities.

WHO CAN HELP US? CHALLENGES OF RURAL WOMEN NON-FARM ENTREPRENEURS IN NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT: In Nigeria, rural women entrepreneurial activities are being increasingly appreciated and documented. These activities have been known to have consequences on employment generation and poverty reduction. Nonetheless, the activities of these women are plagued by a myriad of problems, often resulting in slow growth, poor performance and business failure. This paper highlights the major challenges mitiating against rural women entrepreneurs in the study area. The paper further made pertinent recommendations regarding a framework for the development of rural women entrepreneurship in Nigeria.

THE BROWN CONCRETE CEILING: A LITERATURE REVIEW ON THE STATUS OF LATINA LEADERSHIP IN US UNIVERSITIES AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES

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ABSTRACT: The purpose of this review is to examine literature on the status of US Latina leadership in higher education. There is a disproportionate underrepresentation of Latina leadership in higher education including both current and in-the-pipeline leadership despite their growing and projected numbers. In community colleges alone, only 26 or 2% of CEO’s were Latina in 2006 and the majority of those were in Hispanic populated colleges (Muñoz, 2010). The prospects for the leadership pipeline look just as grim. Only 2% of Ph.D.’s were earned by Latinas in 2007(U.S. Department of Education, 2010). There is acute lack of research on this topic with only a total of five sources discovered. The sources included mixed method studies, articles and a conference paper. Overall, the literature review showed that the two primary sources have seven themes in common and one major difference. The secondary sources have four themes in common with each other and as a whole with the primary sources. The themes are indicative of the forces that come together to form a uniquely and extremely difficult “brown” concrete ceiling for Latinas. The “brown” concrete ceiling is a compounded result of race, gender, culture, and class that Latinas have to break through on a pathway to or as they hold leadership positions in higher education. This issue is
extremely important as we consider the projected number of Latinas and their potential contributions as leaders.

JAMAICA’S BLEACHING STORY: LEARNING TO NEGOTIATE SOCIAL CAPITAL AS AN ADULT

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ABSTRACT: The legacies of slavery and colonialism are well documented in postcolonial and social sciences literature. Importantly, the oppressive and dominant nature of slavery and colonialism taught racial and social discrimination in various ways. Within the context of Jamaica, a small island nation with a history of colonialism and slavery, Eurocentric values, including light skin color as an indicator of beauty, sits within a space of privilege. This paper explores how Jamaicans perceive light skin color as a form of social capital, how their history influences this perception, and how stratification based on skin color continues to be an indicator of social class on the island. It describes efforts to negotiate, manage, and attain this social capital, particularly evidenced by the practice of skin bleaching. Through skin bleaching, individuals seek to improve beauty and obtain this capital (light skin) and make efforts to convert it to other kinds of capital and, thus increase social standing and other opportunities.

SOCIO-CULTURAL PRACTICES AND NON-FORMAL TRAINING OF YOUNG WOMEN TOWARDS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AMONG THE YORUBA OF SOUTHWEST NIGERIA

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ABSTRACT: This paper examines various cultural values among the Yoruba of South Western Nigeria and the resultant effects on forms of entrepreneurship training available for their young women non-formally. The Yoruba race is well-known for its esteem of women. Its civilization has produced several breeds of women from warrior queens to ideal homemakers. Within this line, there have been records of great female farmers, traders and rulers. The Yoruba have a long tradition of women involvement in the cottage and small business enterprises. The paper focuses on the effect of socio-cultural value and practices such as ethnicity values, mentoring of young women, and introduction of the girl-child to business, cottage businesses networking, social interaction, and initiation patterns into heredity businesses, language usage and modalities on the young women in the society. With the growing unemployment rate among the youth in the Southwestern Nigeria, it is pertinent to examine the cultural values and practices of the people so as to establish the fact that there are forms of non-formal traditional and cultural training for entrepreneurship for economic empowerment. Using historical and focus group discussion approaches, the paper reveals that cultural values wield enormous influence in the lives of the individual and the society at large. The application of this influence can positively affect the young women for entrepreneurship. The paper concluded that realizing the significance of cultural values and practices in the promotion of the entrepreneurial spirit among young women, such desirable culture should be encouraged to thrive among the Yoruba.

WHAT THEY WORRIED ABOUT?
VOICES FROM ADULTS AT THEIR LATER LIFE

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ABSTRACT: In the program planning literature, one of the most discussed topics is needs-assessment. Although the definition and way of knowing are ambiguous, there are enduring and standard steps of assessment. Needs are defined as a discrepancy between learners’ current state of knowledge, performance or attitude, and the desired status. To determine the discrepancy or gap, planners must collect empirical
evidence. The needs assessment process is usually the first step in program development. The purpose of the study was to report senior’s needs based on problems they perceived. Five hundred fifty (550) seniors were selected randomly by researchers. The major reported troubles of the seniors were health conditions (51%), psychological and social adjustment (20%), child problems (10%), economic conditions (6%), self-nursing and living (5%), education and entertainment (1%), family support (1%). Problems that seniors want to solve the most are health conditions (21%), economic conditions (15%), self-nursing and living (15%), education and entertainment (8%), family support (7%), psychological and social adjustment (5%), child problems (3%) accordingly. The problems that the seniors perceive, however, might not be the problems that they want to solve the most. The study does not report senior’s problems thoroughly; however, it reveals some critical problems of the seniors which need to be taken into consideration when planning programs for seniors.