

# *Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study Laboratory School*

## *Connections*

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### *2015-2016 Year in Review*

#### *July 2015*

##### **Dissemination:**

- Carol Stephenson and Pamela Beach are guest lecturers in Kindergarten Part 1 Additional Qualification course at OISE, led by Demetra Alves. Carol Stephenson's presentation is entitled "Playful Math and Mathematical Play" and Pamela's is "Investigating Seasons, Nature, and Life Cycles."
- Zoe Donoahue is a guest lecturer in Environmental Education Part 1 Additional Qualification course at OISE, led by Hilary Inwood. Her presentation is entitled "The Structure of an Inquiry - Butterflies and Worms".
- Andrea Cousineau runs a 3-day Natural Curiosity Professional Development Institute, *Making Authentic Inquiry Work*, at York University for 30 teachers from the York Region School Board and 30 teachers from a variety of boards in Ontario, in partnership with Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF). Chriss Bogert attends and supports one day of this Institute.

##### **Jackman ICS in the News:**

- Fatal Light Awareness Program (FLAP) Canada Newsletter describes a visit of Paloma Plant, FLAP Canada's Program Coordinator, to Cindy Halewood's Grade Two classroom at the Lab School in which she had to "upgrade the content of [her] talk" because the children were so knowledgeable and passionate about birds.

#### *August 2015*

##### **International Leadership**

- Richard Messina is the guest of the Centro Paraguayo de Estudios Canadienses (CPEC) in Paraguay and Colegio del Sol School. CPEC is an associate member of the International Council of Canadian Studies, a non-profit association with the objective of promoting Canadian Studies and has a history of inviting Canadian experts to conferences. Richard presents a series of workshop on Inquiry-based learning in science as featured in the Lab School produced teacher-resource entitled "Natural Curiosity", working with the teachers of the Colegio del Sol, a progressive "Reggio Emilia inspired" kindergarten to Grade 12 school. A talk entitled "Inquiry-Based Learning: Nurturing a sense of wonder" is presented to a group of public and independent school teachers. During his stay in

Paraguay, Richard meets with officials from the Secretary of Education (Curriculum) Department, ONG Juntos por la Educacion teacher-educators and he is interviewed by ABC DIARIO, Paraguay's national newspaper. Richard hopes to establish a collaboration in which teachers from both the Lab School and Colegio del Sol can visit and learn from each other's school.

## Dissemination

- Cindy Halewood co-facilitates the 3-day Natural Curiosity Professional Development Institute, *Critical Issues in Authentic Inquiry*, at the Toronto French School in partnership with LSF, for 30 teachers from various Ontario School Boards. Chriss Bogert attends and supports this Institute.

## Professional Development:

- Melissa Markus, Jackman ICS Kindergarten teacher at the Integrated Kindergarten Program at Holland Bloorview, co-teaches the Bloorview Summer Literacy Program to students from Grades 1 to 12 who have acquired brain injuries and are part of the BIRT (Brain Injury Rehabilitation Therapy) unit at Holland Bloorview. This program is intended to help students identify their injury-related deficits and work on specific goals to help them enhance their current level through a literacy lens through individualized programming.
- Cindy Halewood, Zoe Donoahue, Robin Shaw, Chriss Bogert, and Richard Messina visit sites along the Humber River with Doug Anderson, Invert Media, and Allan Colley that are areas being restored and "indigenized" by the Naadmaagit Ki Group (NKG). NKG focuses on the popular restorative use of urban lands based on indigenous principles, knowledge, and practices. They support healing of the land and communities, enhanced food security, and education and employment, for urban aboriginal people and our neighbours (<https://naadmaagitki.wordpress.com/about/>). Some of the Jackman ICS Lab School children will be visiting these sites this year.
- Lab School teachers and staff have four days of Professional Development together in August. The staff read *Creating Cultures of Thinking: The 8 Forces We Must Master to Truly Transform Our Schools* by Ron Ritchhart and discuss implications for our practice. Inspiring quotes from this text can be found on blue posters throughout the Lab School.
- Cindy's *20 Minute Field Trip* receives this comment from Todd Wright, on the Learn Teach Lead website: "Like the intentionality of this, including working with the smaller numbers by taking 1/2 the class. Dynamic learning environments often mean changing up the composition of the kids in the different groups, creating increased focus on the learning goals and bringing a different "social" context to the learning space." <http://learnteachlead.com/teams/knowledge-building-in-primary/forum/topic/20-minute-field-trips-attachment/#post-1004>
- Richard Messina contributes to INQ101x (Teaching with Technology and Inquiry) MOOC (<https://www.edx.org/course/teaching-technology-inquiry-open-course-university-torontox-inq101x>). This MOOC has 8,742 people enrolled and is designed to provide a professional development opportunity for teachers who want to integrate inquiry approaches in their teaching and are interested to examine how technology could further facilitate such integration. His contributions provide K-6 teachers who enrol in

the course with a comprehensive and critical perspective on merits and challenges of fostering inquiry approaches in classroom teaching and learning.

### New Publications

- Hong, H., Scardamalia, M., Messina, R., & Teo, C. (2015) Fostering sustained idea improvement with principle-based knowledge building analytic tools. *Computers & Education* 89 91-102  
<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0360131515300324>

## September 2015

### Awards:

- The President of the University, Professor Meric Gertler, confers awards on noted volunteers at the university each year. This year, we have four Lab School parents selected to receive an Arbor Award. Bob Muncaster (a parent of graduates Matthew, Graham, and Emma) is honoured in recognition of founding the Diana Rankin / Muncaster Family Tuition Support Fund to support economic diversity at Jackman ICS. Kirsten Hanson and Sandy Houston (parents of graduates Allie and Maud) are recognized for their support of the Lab School's Environmental Education handbook "Natural Curiosity: A Resource for Teachers". And parent, Jason De Luca (a parent of Anna-Sophia, Grade 5 and Isabella, JK) is honoured for his invaluable volunteer efforts at OISE on behalf of our Institute. At the event, two more Jackman ICS parents are honoured by other Departments of the University for their generous volunteer efforts: Isi Caulder (a parent of Azra, Grade 3 and Raya, JK) and Ralph Giannone (a parent of graduates, Gian Lorenzo, Massimo, and Luca). We thank all honourees for their contributions to education!

### Dissemination:

- Cindy Halewood and Haley Higdon (Natural Curiosity Coordinator) work with teachers at Aroland First Nations Johnny Therriault Memorial School in Nikina, Ontario, who follow our program of inquiry-based teaching. Cindy Halewood and Haley Higdon run a series of professional development workshops on Ron Ritchhart book, "Creating Cultures of Thinking". One of the partner teachers in Aroland, Marlo Sobush, collects stories of their teaching journey to share in our second edition of the school's bestselling book, *Natural Curiosity - Building Children's Understanding of the World through Environmental Inquiry* (total copies in print: 23,000). These teachers visit Jackman ICS Lab School in October. Marlo Sobush and Cindy Halewood are collaborating on a "Self-ology Project" (a multi-faceted Grade 2 Language Arts project that promotes self-identity): the two classes will come to know each other through the lens of sharing each other's work. While in Aroland, Cindy Halewood experiences its second annual Fall Harvest Festival featuring fish smoking, cleaning duck, skinning beaver, birch bark crafts, bannock making, and a talk by an expert trapper.
- Carol Stephenson joins Dr. Bev Caswell (Director, Robertson Program for Inquiry-Based Teaching in Mathematics and Science) and Dr. Joan Moss along with the Jackman ICS/Robertson team in their math partnership with the Seven Generations Education Institute's First Nation Student Success Program. Joining the team for week 2 is Julie

Comay. The team leads mathematics work with teachers and students in four First Nations communities: Pegamigaabo School (Big Grassy First Nation), Lac La Croix First Nations School, Windigo Island First Nation, and Mikinaak School (Onigaming First Nation). This project is an extension of the Math for Young Children (M4YC) project, initiated and still supported by recently retired Jackman ICS professor and math researcher Dr. Joan Moss in collaboration with Dr. Bev Caswell and our Jackman ICS/Robertson team. Due to the success of our previous partnerships with schools and communities in the Rainy River District School Board, the Jackman ICS team is invited this year to First Nation federal schools to build knowledge alongside Indigenous educators, Ojibwe language teachers, community members, and Kindergarten to Grade 3 educators in the areas of Geometry and Spatial Reasoning. In each school, they help to create engaging “Family Math Nights”, connecting with the community as a whole. The research project examines how young children learn Geometry – a fundamental pillar of Mathematics – and how teachers can best support the development and enrichment of the students’ spatial reasoning skills through playful mathematical activities and lessons. More information is available on the Robertson Program website: <http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/robertson/>

### **Jackman ICS in the News:**

- Jackman ICS Lab School is featured in the Report on Private Schools on the Globe and Mail. The article ‘In lab schools, learning in classrooms benefits students and researchers’ can be found at <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/national/education/in-lab-schools-learning-in-classrooms-benefits-students-and-researchers/article26498016/>

### **Outreach:**

- Grade Three students organize a Terry Fox Run. This Fall, our students heard about Terry Fox’s message that you can achieve anything if only you believe in yourself and persevere. Following the Terry Fox run, the children were invited to set a goal for themselves and write it down on a footstep, which we have posted on our walls. As you walk around the school, we hope you will enjoy the children’s ideas and ambitions for their personal growth this year!

### **Parent Education:**

- Jackman ICS Lab School classroom and specialty teachers host Curriculum Night for Grade 3 to Grade 6 parents, one of the most important evenings of the year. Parents enjoy the opportunity to find out what their child will be experiencing and learning, and to hear each teacher share their program philosophy and plans.

### **Research:**

- Huang-Yao Hong, Marlene Scardamalia, Richard Messina, and Chew Lee Teo’s research paper “Fostering sustained idea improvement with principle-based knowledge building analytic tools” is published on Computers & Education

### **Supporting Pre-Service Teacher Training:**

- Sarah Luongo gives presentations to the MA CSE students on Physical Education and Health Education.

**Visitors:**

- Kobe Shinwa Women's University (Kobe, Japan)
- The Chestnut Hill School (Chestnut Hill, MA)
- Department of Education & Training (Queensland, Australia)
- Colegio Santa Elena (Asuncion, Paraguay)
- University of West Indies (Kingston, Jamaica)

**October 2015****Dissemination:**

- Haley Higdon presents to BEd students at the Wilfred Laurier University, on Natural Curiosity and the role of Inquiry in Environmental Education.
- Haley Higdon and Stan Kozak from Learning for Sustainable Future facilitate "Making Authentic Inquiry Work" Institutes with 35 teachers from Calgary, AB and 40 teachers from Invermere, BC.
- Chriss Bogert and Richard Messina participate in a Knowledge Building Think Tank at the Ministry of Education, in the Student Achievement Office, with other educators and Ministry of Education policymakers.

**Invited Guests:**

- Meredith Temple, a Trainer and Mentor for the Empower Reading Program from Sick Kids, observes the Empower Reading Program taught by Nick Song.
- Ramy Ghattas from Logics Academy, a Robotics and Aerospace Education academy, joins a Knowledge Building meeting.
- Christine Luza, a former coordinator of Canadian Roots Exchange, and now a doctoral student focusing on truth and reconciliation in Indigenous Education, joins the Knowledge Building meeting.

**Jackman ICS in the News:**

- Grade 5/6 students create artworks to highlight important election issues in time for Federal Election 2015. They are exhibited outside the Lab School into an exhibition for the neighbourhood. A photo is featured on [U of T Bulletin](#).

**Parent Education:**

- Jackman ICS Lab School classroom and specialty teachers host Curriculum Night for Nursery to Grade 2 parents, one of the most important evenings of the year. Parents enjoy the opportunity to find out what their child will be experiencing and learning, and to hear each teacher share their program philosophy and plans.
- All members of parent/guardian community are invited to the first Community Knowledge Building Chats (CKBC), an opportunity for them to ask questions, share

ideas, and build understanding. Representatives from each class attend.

- Parent Education Committee organizes an event “The Impact of Exercise in Children’s Health” with a focus on wellbeing in many forms. It is presented in collaboration with the Fraser Mustard Institute for Human Development.

#### **Professional Development:**

- Raadiyah Nazeem attends an Open House hosted by Duplicom, a leading supplier of audio visual technologies. She explores the latest in education technology from multiple companies including SMART, Copernicus, Lightspeed, and Epson.
- Raadiyah Nazeem and Nick Song attend the Toronto Tech for Schools Summit hosted by EdSurge. They are introduced to the latest innovations for supporting teachers in their classrooms as well as work hands-on with products designed to enhance student engagement through the use of technology.
- Haley Higdon attends **Earth Matters Conference** in Canmore, Alberta. This national conference about energy and environmental education is hosted by Alberta Council for Environmental Education partnering with organizations such as Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication.
- Richard Messina attends “B3D Printing, Scanning and Design Pre-Conference” at Ryerson University to discover how 3D technology (printing, scanning, software) can impact elementary education.

#### **Supporting Pre-service Teacher Training:**

- Jackman ICS Lab School teachers give presentations to MA CSE students: Cindy Halewood on Social Studies, Norah L’Esperance and Chriss Bogert on Learning Environment, Zoe Donoahue and Ben Peebles on Classroom Management, Russell Hersen on Music Workshop, Tara Rousseau on Visual Art, Carol Stephenson and Chriss Bogert on Environmental Inquiry in Early Years Classrooms, and Carol Stephenson on Math for the Early Years: linking theory and practice.

#### **Visitors:**

- Delegation from Denmark, organized by Ontario Principals’ Council
- Educators from Johnny Therriault Memorial School, Aroland First Nation
- Student Achievement Officers from Ministry of Education, with superintendent and principals from Dufferin Peel Catholic District Sschool Board

*November 2015*

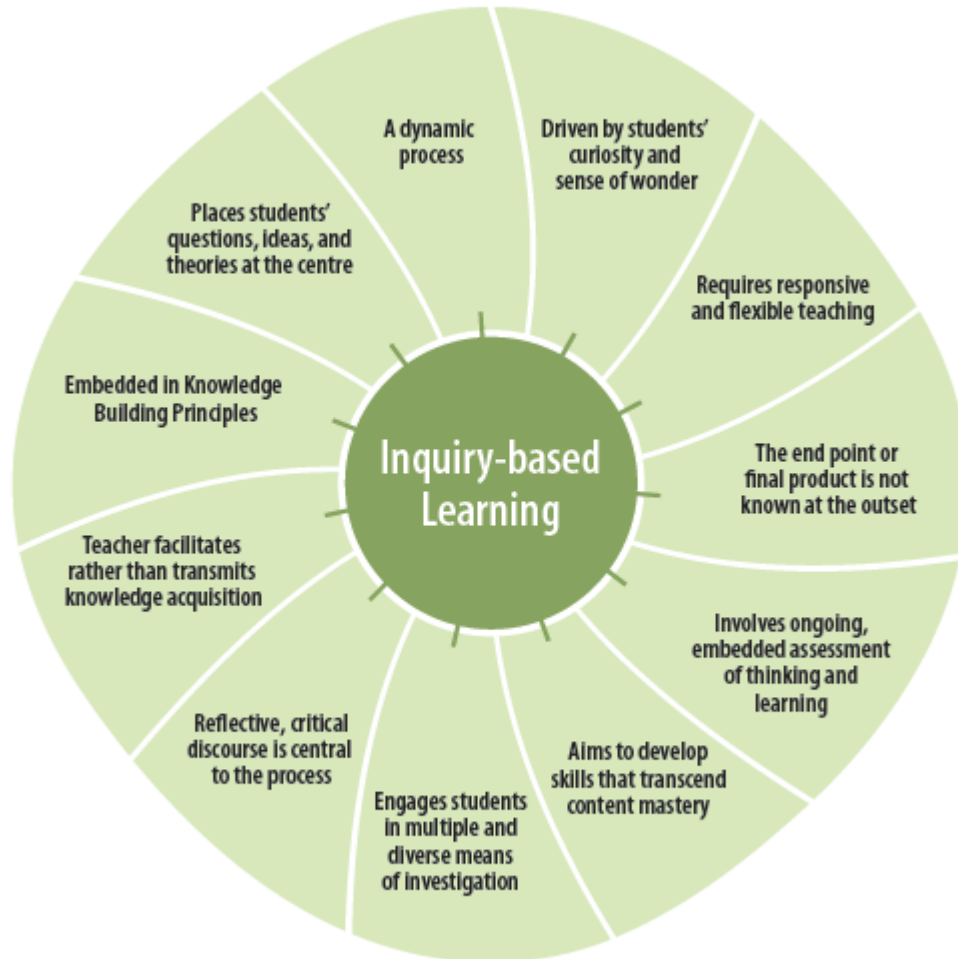
#### **Dissemination:**

- Jackman ICS Lab School gives permission to publish figures from *Natural Curiosity: A Resource For Teachers* to the Science Teachers' Association of Ontario (STAO), in an introductory overview on the topic of teaching science through inquiry that will be posted on the STAO website. This overview will support the teacher designed K-12 science inquiry-focused lessons by providing background information on the key

questions teachers often ask when teaching with an inquiry approach.

### *Defining Characteristics of Inquiry-based Learning at The Laboratory School*

Figure 2: Defining Characteristics of Inquiry-based Learning at The Laboratory School



**Table 4: Planning for Inquiry-based Learning**

Key Actions	Example
Choose a key concept related to curriculum	Soil Ecosystems
Brainstorm all possible directions it can go, how it might connect to big ideas in the curriculum, and to other strands or areas of the curriculum.	Rocks and minerals; planting, worms, food, composting, agriculture, insects, habitats
Brainstorm initial supporting resources that may be useful.	Magnifying glasses; information and story books; field trips; guest speakers; soil samples; multi-media resources
Decide what the first lead-in experience(s) will be.	Take students outside to collect soil.
Have the students form a Knowledge Building Circle to talk about the first lead-in experience, in order to assess what students know and want to know.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “What did you notice? What do you know about soil? What do you wonder?”</li> <li>• Document questions and theories that arise in discussion.</li> </ul>
Reflect on the students’ shared questions and ideas and how they could be used to inform subsequent planning.	<i>“Hmm. Many of the children posed questions about worms and how they help soil. We might benefit from seeing some worms in a terrarium or even a vermicomposter.”</i>
Decide if students will be exploring questions individually, in small groups, or as a whole group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Younger students from K to Grade 2 usually investigate questions as a whole group because their reading skills are still developing (This may vary depending on the group).</li> <li>• Students in older grades are more able to branch out into groups to investigate different questions independently.</li> </ul>

- Tara Rousseau presents at “The Spiral Comes Full Circle: How Nation-to-Nation Relations with First Nations Can Lead to Economies that Work for All of Us”, a Unify Toronto event at OCADU.
- Haley Higdon along with Pamela Gibson from Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF) facilitates a 2-day Institute for 35 educators at York University, entitled “Making Authentic Inquiry Work”.

**Invited Guests:**

- Métis artist Christi Belcourt and elder/storyteller Isaac Murdoch work with Jackman ICS students on a mural project. Artists-in-Residence are welcomed by OISE elder Jacqui Lavalley at the school assembly.

**School Events:**

- World Kindness Day: Grade Two students invite Grades One to Six to join a special assembly in their classroom about the importance of practicing kindness at school.
- Jackman ICS Book Night is held at Indigo Books. Staff and families gather to support the Lab School Library.

**Professional Development:**



- Zoe Donoahue and Robin Shaw attend Education Days (Ezhiniigaanizime: Moving Forward Together) presented by the Native Canadian Centre of Toronto. They have an opportunity to interactively engage in learning about the rich culture and traditions of Canada's Aboriginal peoples. The content is based on the Ontario Curriculum.
- Richard Messina, Chriss Bogert, Carol Stephenson, and Norah L'Esperance represent Jackman ICS Lab School at the Psychology Foundation of Canada's Annual Breakfast for Champions. The event features a guest speaker, Professor Marla B. Sokolowski.
- Pamela Beach graduates with PhD. Congratulations!
- Ben Peebles, Mike Martins, and Richard Messina attend the inservice by Ministry of Education on the new Adolescent Literacy document. *Natural Curiosity* team hosts meetings for teachers and the Advisory Board working on the Second Edition *Natural Curiosity* resource.

### Supporting Pre-service Teacher Training:

- Lab School Fall Institute for 76 Year-1 students: MA CSE students have opportunities to observe and debrief. Lab School teachers share the pedagogy, philosophy, and understanding of how children learn best. Knowledge Forum is used to teach about Inquiry and Knowledge Building pedagogy in an authentic "hands on and minds on" way.
- Presentations to the MA CSE Year-2 students by Jackman ICS teachers: Drama by Sarah Murray, and Math by Lisa Sherman.

### Visitors:

- Educators from Teacher Training Department at Katholieke Pabo Zwolle (Netherlands)
- Educators from three of the partner schools with Seven Generations Education Institute, Pegamigaabo School (Big Grassy First Nation), Zhingwako Zaiganing School (Lac La Croix First Nation), and Mikinaak Onigaming School (Onigaming First Nation) (Northern Ontario)
- Beijing Foreign Language School, Beijing Foreign Language University (Beijing, China)

## December 2015

### Leadership:

- Sarah Luongo is invited to be a judge in a robotics competition for the First Lego League (FLL), where the theme for the competition is "Trash into Treasure". She acts as a judge for the Core Values portion of the competition. Being a Core Values judge entails watching the robotics teams work through a team challenge that is an almost impossible problem to solve. In observing the teams, Core Values judges look at how teams interact with each other, commenting on specific areas such as team work, cooperation, effectiveness, efficiency, inspiration, and *coopertition* (a term coined by FLL that brings together cooperation and competition). Sarah has a wonderful experience to see children ranging from Grade 3 to 8 becoming designers, builders, and innovators.

**Outreach:**

- The Social Justice Club organizes a Food Drive for the Walmer Road Baptist Church Food Bank.

**Parent Education:**

- All members of parent/guardian community are invited to the second Community Knowledge Building Chats (CKBC), an opportunity for them to ask questions, share ideas, and build understanding. Representatives from each class attend.

**Supporting Pre-service Teacher Training:**

- Presentations to the MA CSE Year-2 students by Jackman ICS teachers: Math by Ben Peebles and Shakespeare by Mike Martins and Richard Messina.

**Visitors:**

- Teacher/Primary Department Head from St. Mildred's-Lightbourn School (Oakville, ON)
- 2 Educators from Limestone DSB (Kingston, ON)

*January 2016*

**Dissemination:**

- Haley Higdon and Chriss Bogert present at OISE Environmental Studies Conference.
- Chriss Bogert attends the Knowledge Building Think Tank meeting at the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat, Ministry of Education.

**Jackman ICS in the News:**

- Jackman ICS Lab School is featured on Toronto Star. The article 'Are lice a nuisance or a health concern?' can be found at:<http://www.thestar.com/life/parent/2016/01/18/are-lice-a-nuisance-or-a-health-concern.html>

**Natural Curiosity:**

- Richard Messina, Haley Higdon, and Carol Stephenson visit Federal School, Curve Lake First National School with Robertson Program Team to promote Natural Curiosity work.
- Richard Messina, Haley Higdon, and Cindy Halewood visit schools in Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB with Robertson Program Team to promote Natural Curiosity work.

- Haley Higdon, Christel Durand, and Chriss Bogert facilitate Natural Curiosity Institute for French Ministry.
- Haley Higdon and Chriss Bogert meet with a representative from Ontario Parks to discuss Inquiry approach training for their summer staff.
- Haley Higdon with Stan Kozak (Learning for a Sustainable Future) presents at the Ontario EcoSchools Board Representative Conference at York University.

#### **Parent Education:**

- Jackman ICS Research Night for Parents: Patricia Ganea and Yiola Cleovoulou with Zoe Donoahue, Cindy Halewood, and Chriss Bogert present on Critical Reading and Picture Books.

#### **Professional Development:**

- Norah L'Esperance, Carol Stephenson, Lisa Sherman, Robin Shaw, Ben Peebles, Judith Kimel, Nick Song, Chriss Bogert, and Richard Messina attend Introduction to Integrative Thinking Workshop at Rotman School of Management.

#### **Supporting Pre-service Teacher Training:**

- Presentations to the MA CSE Year-2 students by a Jackman ICS teacher: Physical Education and Health Education by Sarah Luongo.

#### **Visitors:**

- I-Think Initiative, Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto
- Primary Education Program Director, University of Edinburgh
- Dufferin Peel Catholic DSB
- Doug McDougall, Associate Dean, OISE, University of Toronto
- Conseil scolaire de district catholique de l'Est ontarien (CSDCEO)
- Visiting scholar from Groupe de Recherche de Neurosciences Educatives (Angers, France)
- English immersion Early Years Independent School Principals (Beijing, China)
- Christian Island Elementary School (Federal School, Christian Island, ON)

## *February 2016*

#### **Invited Guests:**

- Sandra Whiting, storyteller, works with children as part of the Black History Month events.
- Desmond Cole, journalist, works with children as part of the Black History Month events.
- Dione Taylor, singer, works with children as part of the Black History Month events.

**Natural Curiosity:**

- Haley Higdon and Chriss Bogert meet with a representative from Ontario Parks to discuss Inquiry approach training for their summer staff.

**Parent Education:**

- The Jackman ICS Teachers invite parents into the school to share our approach to literacy with a panel of speakers, and to see students engaged in interpreting, creating, and communicating in their classrooms.
- Richard hosts a Community Knowledge Building Chat on Natural Curiosity, our environmental education initiative. Haley Higdon and Chriss Bogert present to the parents, and give them a chance to experience a knowledge building circle.

**Professional Development:**

- Pamela Beach attends National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Annual Convention in New Orleans, LA.
- Raadiyah Nazeem attends Reading for the Love of It Conference in Toronto.
- Richard Messina attends National Association of Independent School (NAIS) Conference in San Francisco, CA.

**Supporting Pre-service Teacher Training:**

- Presentations to the MA CSE Year-2 students by a Jackman ICS teacher: Visual Arts by Tara Rousseau.

**Research:**

- Carol Stephenson and Zoe Donoahue visit Federal Schools with the Robertson Research Team, as invited guests of Seven Generations Education Institute.
- Zoe Donoahue works with the Rainy River District School Board schools with the Robertson Team

**Visitors:**

- Pre-service teachers and faculty members from Faculty of Education, York University
- Brisdale Public School (Peel DSB)
- St. Andrew Catholic School and St. Andre Catholic School (Toronto Catholic DSB)
- Killaloe Public School (Renfrew County DSB)
- MA Candidate from Concordia University
- Curve Lake Federal School
- Rosedale Day School
- MA Student and documentary filmmaker, Daisy Gand, visits from Haute Ecole des Arts du Rhin (Strasbourg, France)

## March 2016

### Dissemination:

- The Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study and the Robertson Program present a public lecture entitled, "Coding in the Curriculum: Something More, Something For?" by Dr. Brent Davis (Werklund Research Professor in Mathematics Education, Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary)
- Grade 5/6 students and teachers attend Mindstorms Coding Workshop with Brent David and Krista Francis from the Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary
- Bev Caswell and Joan Moss provide professional development in spatial reasoning and coding with early years teachers in the Toronto District School Board.
- Robertson Team works with TDSB Early Years Instructional Leaders to plan Spatial Reasoning and Number Sense PD
- Zoe Donoahue's exemplary teaching in Math is documented in *Opening the World of Mathematics: The Daily Math Discussion*. National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (March 2016) Vol. 22, Issue 7

### Professional Development:

- Robertson Team tours Faculty of Engineering with the lens of planning their Coding Think Tank
- Chriss Bogert presents Environmental Education Workshop

### Supporting Pre-Service Teachers:

- Chriss Bogert and Haley Higdon present to Dr. Yiola Cleovoulou's first year MA class about Environmental Education: "Sustainability through an Inquiry Pedagogy"
- Presentations to the MA CSE Year-2 students by Jackman ICS Drama Teacher, Sarah Murray
- Presentations to the MA CSE Year-2 students by Jackman ICS GRade 2 Teacher, Cindy Halewood on Social Studies

### Natural Curiosity:

- Lisa Sherman and Haley Higdon facilitate the Natural Curiosity Institute for Killbear Provincial Park (Ontario Parks)

- Norah L'Esperance and Haley Higdon facilitate a Natural Curiosity Institute for the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board
- Natural Curiosity Institute for the French Ministry at the Lab School with Haley Higdon, Christel Durand, and Chriss Bogert

**Visitors:**

- CEO of Ontario College of Teachers
- Teachers from Curve Lake Federal School
- City Dance Corps for the school's annual Patrick Harvie Dance JK to Grade 6

*April 2016*

**Conferences:**

- Clare Kosnik, Angela Pyle, Daniel Poliszczuk, Adam Davies, Joan Moss, Beverly Caswell, Pamela Beach and Yiola Cleovolou present at the American Education Research Association (AERA)'s annual conference in Washington, DC.
- Richard Messina attends 'Explore It', TDSB's Elementary Science and Technology Conference
- Robin Shaw and Chriss Bogert attend the International Association for Laboratory Schools International Tour in New York
- Richard Messina attend the International Association for Laboratory Schools Conference in Puerto Rico
- Richard Messina and Norah L'Esperance attend "Why Family Mealtimes Matter: The Science and Politics of Food, Family and Child Health" by Dr. Fiese at SickKids

**Professional Development:**

- Raadiyah Nazeem, Nick Song and Clare Kosnik visit Paul Yip, Technology Integration Team Leader at Bishop Strachan School (BSS)
- Renée Smith and Christel Durand visit the Dewson French Immersion Program, JK to Grade 4/5
- Christel Durand runs a workshop of integration of yoga in French at École Pierre-Elliot Trudeau School for JK to Grade 6 students

**Parent Education:**

- The Parent Education Committee welcomes Dr. Reut Gruber to JICS to speak to parents, teachers and researchers about sleep and daytime functioning in youth.

#### **Supporting Pre-Service Teachers:**

- Julia Wegiel, from the Bachelor of Education program at Queen's University completes a placement in the Library with Raadiyah Nazeem
- Nick Song presents to Queen's University students "Authentic technology use at the Lab School: Real Problems, Real Solutions"
- Presentations to the MA CSE Year-2 students by Jackman ICS Principal: Shakespeare, by Richard Messina

#### **Natural Curiosity:**

- Haley Higdon, the project lead for Natural Curiosity and Stan Kozak from Learning for a Sustainable Future facilitate a two-day Inquiry Institute in Vancouver, BC
- Haley Higdon facilitates a Natural Curiosity Inquiry Institute in Nelson, BC for Educators in SD8 and Kootenay Boundary Region
- Carol Stephenson and Christel Durand co-facilitate a Natural Curiosity Institute in Halifax, 'Making Authentic Inquiry Work'

#### **Invited Guests:**

- Kim Kilpatrick, Storyteller
- Marie Agnant, Storyteller
- Isaac Murdoch, Anishinaabe storyteller, Fish Clan, Serpent River First Nation
- Soyeon Kim, Book Illustrator
- Barbara Reid, Author & Illustrator

#### **Research:**

- Jackman ICS and the Robertson Program gather math educators, instructional leaders, teachers, and engineers for a Think Tank about Coding. This includes a variety of presentations and working group discussions about how best to incorporate coding in the curriculum. This collaborative effort is oriented toward producing policy considerations as jurisdictions move toward incorporating coding in the curriculum.
- Joan Moss, Zack Hawes, and Bev Caswell present research results at the National Council for Teachers of Mathematics Research Conference in San Francisco. Joan Moss is an invited keynote speaker.

#### **Visitors:**

- Winnipeg School Board - Every year, *Natural Curiosity* and the Laboratory School hosts Cheryl Zubrack and a team of selected teachers from the Winnipeg School District for an intensive 3-day study of inquiry. The teachers visit and observe Laboratory School teachers in action, and participate in deep, impactful conversation around their own

practices and how they can further inquiry within their own classrooms and throughout their school board.

- Pedro de Moraes Garcez, Professor at Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- Teachers from: Lancaster School and Corliss Public School (PDSB), Rosedale Day School, Nobleton Public School, YRDSB, Wellington Catholic School Board, Hillfield Strathallan College, Ottawa Carleton District School Board; Howard Public School, Annette PS and Perth Public School (TDSB); St. Clement School and St. Raphael School (TCDSB)
- Teachers from Rainy Rivert District School Board
- NTIP Steering committee from Halton District School Board
- Aleksandra Pietrasz, David Suzuki Fellowship Award winner
- Gail Rutherford, Student Achievement Officer, Ministry of Education
- Stael Ruffinello & Carolina Ortiz from the Coegio del Sol, Paraguay
- Jo Lampert, Professor at Queensland University of Technology

## *May 2016*

### **OISE/UofT's Laboratory School Named World's Best in 2016**

The International Association of Laboratory Schools (IALS) has named the Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study (JICS) winner of the 2016 Outstanding Laboratory School Award. Richard Messina, JICS principal, accepts the award in Puerto Rico on April 27, 2016, at the International Association of Laboratory Schools annual conference. See OISE's press release:

[http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/oise/About\\_OISE/OISE\\_lab\\_school\\_JICS\\_wins\\_outstanding\\_lab\\_award.html](http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/oise/About_OISE/OISE_lab_school_JICS_wins_outstanding_lab_award.html)

### **Dissemination**

- Jackman ICS Professor, Dr. Kang Lee's TED Talk announces innovative lying and hidden emotion-revealing technology. Watch the video here:  
[http://www.ted.com/talks/kang\\_lee\\_can\\_you\\_really\\_tell\\_if\\_a\\_kid\\_is\\_lying#t-4466](http://www.ted.com/talks/kang_lee_can_you_really_tell_if_a_kid_is_lying#t-4466)

### **Parent Education:**

- Parent Ed Committee hosts a panel discussion "Media + Children: Understanding how media impacts children and how to promote healthy engagement" featuring David Booth, Professor Emeritus, OISE/U of T; Sara Dimmerman, Psychologist & Author; and Neil Anderson, President of the Association for Media Literacy & Author

### **Visitors:**



- Sofia Alfieri and Noelia Buttice join Stael Ruffinelli and Carolina Ruffinelli from the Colegio del Sol, Paraguay
- Teachers and staff from Brákarborg School in Reykjavik, Iceland
- Glen Aikenhead, Indigenous Scholar from the University of Saskatchewan
- Interim Dean Glen Jones
- Amanda Humphreys from Bishop Strachan School
- Educators from Roseneath Centennial Public School, Kawartha Pineridge DSB
- Mikkel Stovgaard, PhD student, Program of School Research, Department of Education, Aarhus University, Denmark
- Visiting Professors at OISE, from South China Normal University, Shaoming Chai, Meirong Ding, and Joanna Qi, visit the Lab School. These Professors are connected to us through their research with OISE's Institute for Knowledge Innovation and Technology (IKIT). <http://www.oise.utoronto.ca/research/Centre-IKIT.html>

### **Natural Curiosity:**

- Haley Higdon facilitates a Natural Curiosity/LSF Inquiry Institute in Winnipeg with Stephanie Hammond from Fraser Mustard Early Learning Academy
- Haley Higdon facilitates a Natural Curiosity/LSF Institute, Making Authentic Inquiry Work, at Dr. David Suzuki Public School in Windsor

### **Professional Development:**

- Jackman ICS Professors Dr. Jan Pelletier & Dr. Angela Pyle attend a training session with the Ministry of Education on the implementation of Growing Success: The Kindergarten Addendum and revised The Kindergarten Program (2016)
- Carol Stephenson, Dr. Bev Caswell and Robertson Program staff visit Alderville First Nation, Black Oak Savannah, supporting Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB teacher PD
- Haley Higdon, Carol Stephenson, together with Zach Pederson and Dr. Bev Caswell of the Robertson Program visit Curve Lake First Nation School to participate in a land-based learning experience.

### **Research:**

- Canadian Haiku and Japanese Haiku by Elementary Students, is published with poetry from JICS GRade 5 class 2014/15 and a Grade 6 class from Ehime University Elementary School
- Robertson Program staff Larisa Lam, Jisoo Seo, and Zach Pedersen travel to Aroland First Nation to conduct math interviews with children grades K-2
- Dr. Bev Caswell, Dr. Julie Comay, Leslie Campbell and Alberta Robinet travel to First Nation communities to work with Seven Generations Education Institute First Nation Student Success Program educators and community members in the spatial reasoning project
- Dr. Clare Kosnik, Dr. Rob Simon, Dr. Joan Moss, Dr. Bev Caswell and Zach Hawes participate in a joint book launch: Building Bridges: Rethinking Literacy Teacher Education in a Digital Era (Kosnik); Teaching Literature to Adolescents (Simon); and Taking Shape: Activities to

## Develop Geometric and Spatial Thinking (Moss, Caswell, Hawes)

- JICS Lab School teachers and admin staff receive acknowledgements for their contribution to Math For Young Children research and the publication of Robertson Program's new book: Taking Shape: Activities to Develop Geometric and Spatial Thinking (Moss, Caswell, Hawes)
  - The M4YC research - and this book that results from it - would not have been possible without the involvement of many amazing individuals who embarked on the research journey with us. The authors would like to acknowledge the Dr. Eric Jackman Institute of Child Study (Ontario Institute for Studies in Education at the University of Toronto),  
With special thanks to: Carol Stephenson, Zoe Donoahue, Julie Comay, Elizabeth Morley, Richard Messina, Chriss Bogert, Ben Peebles, Julia Murray, Judith Kimel, Cindy Halewood, Nick Song, , Pamela Beach, Norah L'Esperance, Michael Martins, Raadiya Nazeem, Tara Rousseau, Robin Shaw, Lisa Sherman, Renee Smith, Christel Durand, Sarah Murray, Suzanne Schwenger, Russell Hersen.
- Teacher Research Share Day: Lab School teachers share research findings with each other based on individual and small group research projects explored this year. JICS Director Clare Kosnik attends and provides feedback.

## *June 2016*

### **Dissemination**

- Zoe Donoahue, Carol Stephenson, Richard Messina, and Chriss Bogert attend an Indigenous Educational Leadership Forum run by The Robertson Program to showcase their research on Math for Young Children. The research highlights the role of Indigenous educational leadership in improved understanding of teaching and learning of mathematics. The forum demonstrates the importance of respectful and reciprocal partner relationships in advancing student success and provides an opportunity to meet with members of a dynamic collective of Elders, community members, researchers, educators and policy makers.

### **Natural Curiosity:**

Natural Curiosity Award Winners are announced by Haley Higdon at the Pollinating Partnerships Event. These awards help to promote the great work of NC and inspire teachers to share their work. Recipients:

#### Dr. David Suzuki Fellowship Award

- Leslie Campbell - MA CSE
- Rachel Shiderman - MT - OISE

#### Edward Burtynsky Award for Teaching Excellence in Environmental Education

- Grand Prize Winner - Ellie Clin - The Grove Community School - TDSB
- Runner Up - Rebecca Birtzu - Christian Island Elementary School
- Runner Up - Scott Howe & Woodland Heights Elementary School - TVDSB

**Research:**

- The Robertson Program and Zoe Donoahue work with Rainy River District School Board educators and First Nation community partners

**Professional Work**

- Richard Messina leads the Klingenstein Summer Institute for Early Career Teachers, Elementary Section at the Klingenstein Center, Columbia University, NY - [www.klingenstein.org](http://www.klingenstein.org)

**Professional Development:**

- Dr. Bev Caswell and Dr. Joan Moss attend the Canadian Mathematics Education Study Group 40th anniversary meeting