

UNITWIN UNESCO Chairs Programme

UNESCO Chair Annual Progress Report

UNESCO Chair:	The Political Economy of Education
Institution:	University of Nottingham Wollaton Road, Nottingham, NG8 1BB, United Kingdom www.nottingham.ac.uk
Date Chair Established: (mm, yyyy)	January 2005
Period of Activity Under Report: (mm, yyyy-mm, yyyy)	31 st July 2007-31 st July 2008
Report Established By: (name, position)	Professor W. John Morgan, UNESCO Chairholder Email: John.Morgan@nottingham.ac.uk ; Tel : +44 (0) 115 9513717 www.nottingham.ac.uk/education/centres/uccer/

1. Executive Summary:

*Major outcomes, results and impact of the Chair in relation to its objectives as stated in Article 2 of the Chair Agreement (between the Institution and UNESCO)
(Not exceeding 500 words)*

The purpose of the Chair is to develop the political economy of education within the context of international development objectives. Its focus will be on joint research and on staff and post-graduate student development at the higher education and advanced policy levels. The building of human resource capacity and the sharing knowledge and expertise in these areas are crucial to international, regional and national development. The Chair is located at the Centre for Comparative Education Research, the University of Nottingham, UK, with the Director, Professor W. John Morgan, a member of the UK National Commission for UNESCO and an academic with significant experience of education for international development, the Chair-holder. The specific or short-term objectives have been to build a network of research and higher education institutions internationally. The Chair has developed a varied and considerable programme of common research and academic exchange of academic personnel, post-graduate students and scientific information with a focus on the comparative political economy of education. This is a crucial area of research and of academic exchange in the era of globalization and rapid political, economic and social transition.

In the past twelve months the Chair has attracted a significant number of other academics to be in association with the Chair through the Centre for Comparative Education. In addition, several distinguished visiting or special professors have been recruited. These contribute *pro bono* to the work of the Chair. This team has an excellent record of research, publications, international academic exchange, supervision of international doctoral students and commissioned project research and is well placed to support the Chair. Professor Morgan, as the Chair-holder, has led the building of this team, together with a network of international university co-operation with transition and developing countries. He is a Board member of the United Kingdom National Commission for UNESCO holding portfolio responsibility for higher education and the development of the UNITWIN-UNESCO Chairs' programme in Britain. As such he has, with the support of the UKNC Programme Secretariat, worked closely with colleagues from other British universities, with the UK Permanent Delegation to UNESCO and with the Division of Higher Education at UNESCO, Paris. He has also been interim Chair of the UKNC Education Committee since August 2007.

2. **Activities:**

Overview of activities undertaken by the Chair in the reporting period

a) Education/Training/Research

(key education programmes and training delivered and research undertaken by the Chair in the reporting period)

i) Education	<p>The Chair and Centre for Comparative Education Research has over 150 students, both full-time and part-time, and from many countries studying for the MA, the M.ED, the Ed. D and the PhD. These are typically early-career professionals, both academics and administrators and policy makers, often sponsored by their governments or through scholarship and fellowship schemes. Men and women are present in approximately equal numbers. There are also three specific UNESCO doctoral studentships, currently from Palestine, Romania and from Vietnam. Ten students graduated with doctorates in the current year. There is also a post-doctoral programme.</p>
ii) Training	<p>Training in research methods in Education and the Social Sciences is given to Visiting Scholars and to registered students through participation in seminars and workshops.</p>
iii) Research	<p><i>Higher Education and the Labour Market in China:</i> Funded by the Sino-British Fellowship Trust and China Scholarship Council. Led by Professor W. J. Morgan in collaboration with the Institute for Economics of Education, Peking University and Institute for Educational Research, Tsinghua University. The research explores graduate destinations in the labour market of Chinese students from different sectors of Higher Education in China.</p> <p><i>Building South African Capacity:</i> England-Africa Partnership under Phase 1 of Department for Innovation Universities and Skills (DIUS)- completed in June; phase 2 under development. Led by Professor Simon McGrath the focus is on developing a strategy for vocational teacher education; building research capacity in the college sector; facilitating a new network of FET with colleges, universities, government and other stakeholders.</p> <p><i>Development Discourses: Higher Education and Poverty Reduction in South Africa:</i> Funded by DfID-ESRC and led by Professor Melanie Walker and Dr Monica McLean, in the third phase of the Poverty Reduction programme. It seeks to explore 'human development professional capabilities' and the role of universities in social transformation.</p> <p><i>Education for the Development of Civil Society:</i> There are a number of related projects.</p> <p><i>International Students' Intercultural Experiences in UK HE.</i> Funded by ESRC and led by Dr Qing Gu, it seeks to explore the nature of international students' change during their period of study.</p> <p><i>Rethinking the Needs of International Students: Critical Perspectives on the Internationalisation of UK Higher Education Institutions.</i> Funded by ESRC Seminar series 2008-09 and led by Dr Qing Gu.</p> <p><i>Impact of UK Educational Experiences on Chinese Returnees' Lives and Careers.</i> Funded by the British Academy and led by Dr Qing Gu. It seeks to explore how and why overseas educational and inter-cultural experiences may (or may not) contribute to the personal and professional development of Chinese returnees.</p> <p><i>Peace Education in Jordanian and British Schools: A comparative study.</i> Funded by the British Academy and the Economic and Social Research Council under the Visiting Fellowship programme. Led by Professor W. J. Morgan and Dr Mohammad Al-Zyoud, Department of Educational Foundations, University of Jordan.</p> <p><i>Martin Buber's Philosophy of Education and the Resolution of Inter-Communal Conflict.</i> Funded by the British Academy. Led by Professor W. J. Morgan. It seeks to identify the possibilities for the practical application of Martin Buber's philosophy of dialogue through education, particularly non-formal education.</p> <p><i>Education for Community Cohesion-Rwanda.</i> Funded by the DELPHE Programme of DfID-British</p>

Council. Led by Dr Gary Mills and Dr Rolf Wiesemes it seeks to explore through a partnership with Kigali Institute of Education teacher educators and trainees, the development of dialogue about sensitive and controversial issues in schools and communities.

Teaching about the Holocaust – Lithuania, Romania and the UK. Funded by the EU and the University of Nottingham. Led by Dr Gary Mills and Dr Rolf Wiesemes. It seeks to evaluate in partnership with *Beth Shalom* cross-national use of an interactive Holocaust Education website and related teaching and learning about sensitive issues in classroom settings.

Adult Education and the Development of Civil Society in Britain and India. Funded by the British Academy and the Association of Commonwealth Universities. Led by Dr Christopher Atkin in partnership with the Jawarahal Nehru University, Delhi. Seeks to explore the relationship through historical and comparative case studies.

Adult Basic Education and Rural Society: Funded by the Learning and Skills Councils. Led by Dr Christopher Atkin and Dr Anne Convery, it evaluates programmes for adult basic education and skills development as contributions to the political economy of rural society. A comparative dimension is being developed.

Non-Governmental Organizations, Non-Formal Education and Civil Society in China, Russia and Europe. Led by Professor W. J. Morgan in partnership with the China Policy Institute and the Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Sciences. Seeks to explore the relationship through historical and comparative case studies.

Identity, Citizenship, Inclusion & Social Cohesion & Lifelong Learning in Europe: Funded by European Commission Framework Programme 6. Led by Professor John Holford and Dr Laura Engel, it aims at mapping identity and citizenship and strategies for inclusion and social cohesion in Europe through education.

b) Conferences/Meeting

(key conferences and meetings organized by the Chair or to which its Chair-holder contributed)

- *University of London Witness Seminar*: 14th July 2008: The Impact of the External Degrees Programme on international educational development. Invited panel member.
- Chairman of national consultation seminar on UK Report for CONFINTEA 2009: 24th June 2008.
- *Hugh Gaitskell Memorial Lecture*: 22nd May, 2008. Professor Nicholas Burnett, UNESCO Assistant Director-General (Education), 'What kind of UNESCO for what kind of education?'
- *UNIVERSITAS 21 Invitation Symposium*, 7th-9th May, 2008: 'Strategic Partnerships with the Developing World', University College, Dublin.
- *Higher Education and International Development: The contribution of UNESCO Chairs*: 17th 18th January, 2008. Hosted first joint colloquium of UKNC UNITWIN-UNESCO Chairs' Group. Guest Speaker, Mr Georges Haddad, Director of UNESCO Division of Higher Education.
- *Keynote Speech*: 'Continuing Education, Social Capital and Citizenship: What are the connections?': 29th November, 2007, Inaugural salon of the Centre for Research in Continuing Education and Lifelong Learning, University of Hong Kong.
- '*Scholarships and Development*': 6th November, 2007: Invitation seminar to the Commonwealth Ambassadors' Group, UNESCO, Paris.
- *UNESCO PEACE Programme international conference*, Paris, 4th -5th November, 2007: 'Higher Education- a Path to Peace: Research Development in Palestinian Universities; as conference rapporteur.
- *EU-China Forum on Comparative Social Policy*: 18th-19th September, 2007, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, P. R. China; as member of Organizing Committee and participant.
- *Keynote Speech*: 'Globalization, trans-national education and brain drain': 14th 16th August, 2007. South East Asia Ministers' of Education Organization Conference on 'Globalization and Education', SEAMEO-

RETRAC, Ho Chi Minh City, S.R. Vietnam.

- *Expert Seminar Series*
- Professor Fazal Rizvi, (University of Illinois), 31st July, 2008: 'Indian Higher Education: Negotiating Globalization and the Knowledge Economy.'
- Professor Grigory A. Kliucharev (Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Sciences), 4th June, 2008: 'Education and Learning as Public Goods in Russia.'
- Dr Robert Palmer (University of Edinburgh), 30th May, 2008, 'Skills for Work, Growth and Poverty Reduction.'
- Professor Ding Xiaohao (Graduate School of Education, Peking University) 21st November 2007: 'Higher Education and the Labour Market in China.'
- Professor Alan Rogers (UCCER and University of East Anglia, UK) 5th November 2007: 'Informal learning and its implications for formal learning.'
- Dr Peter Lavender (NIACE, UK) 16th October 2007: 'Reconsidering UK adult literacy in an international context.'

c) Interuniversity Exchanges/Partnerships

(principal exchanges/partnerships between the Chair and other institutions)

Exchanges took place and/or partnerships were developed under various research and visiting scholar programmes with:

Brazil: Universidad de Santa Caterina.

Finland: Comparative Education Research Group, Department of Education, University of Helsinki.

India: Jawarahal Nehru University, Delhi.

Israel: The Hebrew University of Jeruslaem.

Jordan: The University of Jordan, Amman.

P.R. China: Chinese Academy of Social Sciences; China Central Radio and T.V. University, Beijing; Gansu Institute of Education; Peking University, Beijing; Tsinghua University, Beijing; University of Hong Kong.

Palestinian Territories: Birzeit University; Al Quds University.

Russian Federation: Institute of Sociology, Russian Academy of Sciences; Moscow State Pedagogical University.

Rwanda: Kigali Institute of Education, Kigali.

South Africa: Human Sciences Research Council, Pretoria; University of Kwa-Zulu Natal; University of the Western Cape; Stellenbosch University.

UNESCO International Institute of Educational Planning, UNESCO, Paris.

Vietnam: South East Asia Ministers of Education Organization RETRAC, Ho Chi Minh City; Institute for Social Development Research, Ha-Noi.; Vietnam National University, Ho Chi Minh City.

d) Publications/Multimedia Materials

(major publications and teaching/learning materials)

tick relevant fields of output and indicate volume of output:

	[tick]	[no.]
Books	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Books (edited)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Books (chapters)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4
Monographs	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Research Reports	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	4
Journal Articles (refereed)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	32
Conference Proceedings & Occasional Papers	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	16
Teaching/Learning Materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (CD-Rom)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (Video)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Multimedia Materials (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Give details of major publications and materials including full citations.

The Chair-holder and the other members of the Chair have maintained an active programme of publication in the field of comparative political economy of education, based on their research and teaching, often in collaboration with international partners. The *International Journal of Educational Development* and the *International Journal of Lifelong Education* are edited by members of the Chair and Centre for Comparative Education. In addition, as well as monographs, research reports, edited books, chapters in edited collections, conference papers and reviews, the members of the Chair have had publications in the following journals:

Africa Insight; British Academy Review; Caribbean Journal of Education; China: An international journal; Chinese Journal of Population Science; Compare: a journal of comparative education; European Education; Globalization, Education and Societies; Education, Knowledge and Economy; History of Education; International Journal of Lifelong Education; International Journal of Adult and Lifelong Education; International Journal of Citizenship, Social and Economics Education; International Journal of Cultural Policy; International Journal of Educational Development; International Journal of Learning; International Journal of Adult and Lifelong Education; International Journal of Lifelong Education; Journal of Education and Work; Journal of International Development; Journal of Teachers and Learners; Journal of Vocational Education and Training; Journal of Adult and Continuing Education; Journal of Literacy and Numeracy Studies; Modern University Education; Research in Post-compulsory Education; Research and Practice in Adult Literacy; Studies in the Education of Adults; Southern African Review of Education; and in Tertium Comparationis.

A selection of publications during the year by the Chair-holder only is given below:

'Private higher education in China: access to quality higher education and the acquisition of labour market qualifications by low-income students.' Li Fengliang and W. John Morgan, *Education, Knowledge & Economy*, Vol. 2, No. 1, March 2008, pp. 27–37, ISSN 1749-6896 print/ISSN 1749-690X online.

'Non-governmental organizations, non-formal education and civil society in contemporary Russia.' Grigory A. Kliucharev and W. John Morgan in Y. Zheng and J. Fewsmith, (Eds.) *China's Opening Society: The Non-state sector and governance*. Routledge, London, 2008, pp 54-70. ISBN 978-0-415-45176-5.

"The effects of absolute years and relative rankings of schooling on earnings in China", *Chinese Journal of Population Science*, 2008 (1), 67-73., Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing (in Chinese: with Li Fengliang and Chen Xiaoyu). ISSN: 1000-7881.

'Martin Buber: Philosopher of dialogue and of the resolution of inter-communal conflict.' *The British Academy Review*, No. 10, 2007, pp. 11-14.

The British Council, Education, Training and the New Public Diplomacy, (with Eleanor Brown and Simon McGrath), commissioned literature review for The British Council with appendices, London, March 2007, iv & 47 p.

'Georg Lukács: Cultural policy, Stalinism and the Communist International', *Intellectuals and Cultural Policy*, (Eds.) J. Ahearne and O. Bennett, Routledge, London and New York, 2007, pp. 143-157. ISBN 978-0-415-42090-7.

e) Other (any other activities to report)

Other Relevant Activities of the Chair-holder:

Non executive director and Board member of the United Kingdom National Commission for UNESCO; Portfolio: Higher Education and the UKNC UNITWIN-UNESCO Chairs' Group.

Interim Chair of UKNC Education Committee from 1st August 2007.

Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioner for the United Kingdom and Chair of the Professional Fellowships and Academic Staff Fellowships selection committees; Editor of Education Network E-Newsletter.

Steering Committee, UNESCO PEACE Programme for Palestinian Higher Education.

Patron and Trustee, the Landmines Disability Trust.

External assessor for the Republic of Ireland Higher Education and Training Awards Council.

External assessor for the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications

Editorial board of the *International Journal of Adult and Lifelong Education*. ISSN 0973-1601 (a peer reviewed journal published by the International Institute of Adult Education).

Editorial board of *The Journal of Education*. ISSN 0259-479X (a peer reviewed journal for Southern Africa published by the University of KwaZulu-Natal).

Editorial board of *Weiterbildung*, ISSN 1861-0501 (a practitioner journal of vocational and technical education published by Luchterhand Verlag).

3. Available Resources

Overview of resources placed at the disposal of the Chair in the reporting period

a) Human Resources

- *Status of the Chair* in the organizational structure of the Institution (number of posts contributing to the Chair). The Chair is based on the School of Education's Centre for Comparative Education Research, of which the Chair-holder is Director. This is also part of the Faculty of Law, Social Sciences and Education. The University of Nottingham covers all expenses connected to the work of the Chair.
- *Number of academic staff* (full time and part time), full professors, researchers, lecturers. There are four full professors. Professor W. J. Morgan (Chair-holder and Director of the Centre for Comparative Education Research); Professor J. Holford; Professor S. McGrath; Professor Melanie Walker; also an associate professor, Dr Christopher Atkin; two assistant professors, Dr Anne Convery; Dr. Gary Mills; and four research fellows, according to the availability of external funds, Dr Laura Engel, Dr Qing Gu; Dr Rosie Vaughan and Dr Rolf Wiesemes. Other academic staff members of the School of Education are also associated with the Chair and Centre.
- Ms Sue Faughy is PA to the Chair-Holder and Director of the Centre for Comparative Education Research. Mrs Tracy Beers also provides PA and secretarial support.
- *Special Professors:*
 - Dr David Atchoarena, Special Professor of Comparative Rural Education and Development and Director of Training at the UNESCO International Institute of Educational Planning.
 - Dr Nicholas Burnett, Special Professor of International Education Policy and UNESCO Assistant Director General (Education).
 - Dr Bo Jiang, Special Professor of Comparative Education, and Secretary General of the China Association for International Education Exchange.
 - Mr. David Jobbins, Special Professor of International Higher Education, and former Deputy Editor of *The Times Higher Education Supplement*.
 - Dr. James Muckle, Special Professor of Comparative Education, and specialist on education in Russia.
 - Mrs. Bernadette Robinson, Special Professor of Distance Education and specialist on basic education and teacher education in China.
 - Emeritus Professor Alan Rogers, Special Professor of Development Education, and specialist on non-formal education in sub-Saharan Africa and in south Asia.
 - Emeritus Professor J. Edward Thomas, specialist on adult education and on the re-habilitation of offenders.
 - Professor Albert C. Tuijnman, Special Professor of Economics of Education, specialist on Lifelong Learning and Head of Human Capital Division, European Investment Bank.
- The Chair and Centre for Comparative Education Research has access to other administrative and secretarial staff of the School, Faculty and University and to the full-range of teaching, learning and research resources. See below.

b) Other Resources

tick sources of financial contribution

Host Institution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Partner Institution	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Government Body	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Public Institution/Body (incl. Research Councils)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
UNESCO	<input type="checkbox"/>

	Other UN Agency	<input type="checkbox"/>
	IGO	<input type="checkbox"/>
	NGO	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Other Private	<input type="checkbox"/>

Give details of financial contributions, material resources and space.

The salary of the Chair-holder's PA and one other PA level assistant is met by the University. This is approximately 45,000 Euro. There are also other *ad hoc* contributions from the Dean's Fund and from the Pro-Vice Chancellor's Fund to assist with the general development of the Chair. This has been approximately 15,000 Euros. The Chair also attracted approximately 750,000 Euros in research funds for specific projects. The Chair and its members working as a Centre for Comparative Education Research are fully integrated into the structure of the School of Education, Faculty of Law, Social Sciences and Education and of the University. This covers salaries of those academic staff, including the Chair-holder, who are members of the Chair, although they also have other duties and responsibilities.

In support of the Chair, the University of Nottingham also provided two full-fees scholarships and stipend for three years for doctoral students from low-income countries to study at the UNESCO Chair and Centre for Comparative Education Research. A scholarship for a doctoral student from Palestine was also provided for three years in association with the UNESCO-PEACE Programme. This student support totals approximately 60, 000 Euros.

Material resources (*indicate their nature and use*):

The Chair and its members are fully equipped and have access to the complete material resources of a major British university.

Space placed at the disposal of the Chair or Network

Each academic member of the Chair has his/her own office and there is a general administrative office. There is a large Visiting Scholars/Fellows room equipped with desk space, telephone, and computers. There are several rooms equipped similarly for the use of doctoral students. The Chair also has access to teaching rooms and to University accommodation for the use of academic visitors.

4. Future Plans and Development Prospects:

Outline of action plan for the next biennium. And short/medium and long term development prospects. Please feel free to refer to difficulties that the Chair has experienced (Not exceeding 500 words)

Future Developments of the Chair in the Political Economy of Education and the Centre for Comparative Education Research.

The Chair-holder is a senior professor at the University of Nottingham and holds a number of public service appointments in the field of Higher Education and Development. He is also an internationally known academic in his field. He has the support of a strong team of established and early career academics and has been able to attract an advisory group of special professors. In the short and medium term, the Chair will maintain its current strategy with its strong emphasis on collaborative research and the publication and dissemination of research findings for the guidance of policy-makers, academics and practitioners. Over the next three years the core themes will continue, although fresh aspects will be considered in partnership with colleagues and institutions in partner countries and also with colleagues in complementary disciplines elsewhere in the University of Nottingham, such as the China Policy Institute, the Leverhulme Globalization Centre and the Human Rights Law Centre as a contribution to global education and development goals. The key focus will be on the academic and programme development of the political economy of education according to the following themes:

- Comparative Higher Education.
- Vocational and Technical Education and Skills' Development.
- Adult Basic Education and Rural Development.
- Education and the Development of Civil Society: A comparative approach.
- Peace Education and Social Justice.

The international range of the Chair's research and development activities will include southern Africa, the Indian sub-continent, the Middle East, China, Vietnam, Brazil, Central and Eastern Europe, specifically the accession states to the EU, Russia and the former Soviet Union. The Chair has partner institutions in each of these areas with which it is developing joint projects of research, of staff, programme capacity development and degree studies. It has also a Memorandum of Understanding with the UNESCO International Institute for Educational Planning, Paris which sets out joint activities together with IREDU-Université de Bourgogne, Université de Genève and a university from Latin America (to be agreed).

The Chair-holder will also, supported by the UKNC Programme Secretariat, continue work on his UKNC Board director's portfolio responsibility for Higher Education, and for developing the UNITWIN UNESCO Chairs Programme at British universities. This includes integrating work through collaborative activities, the development of a common strategic plan and, crucially, taking a leading and collective role in the 2009 UNESCO World Conference on Higher Education and its preparatory meetings. This entails close co-operation with Mr Georges Haddad, Director of the Division of Higher Education, UNESCO, Paris and his colleagues. In the long-term, the Chair-holder looks to secure the UNESCO Chair of the Political Economy of Education as an integral part of the University of Nottingham and to secure substantial external funds, perhaps from a named sponsor, as in the case of the Leverhulme Centre for Globalization mentioned above.