

SEMINAR

Transforming Lives through Education

01 November 2024



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**The Centre for Evaluation and Assessment (CEA),
Centre for the Study of Resilience (CSR)**

In collaboration with the

International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA)

cordially invites you to the seminar by

Professor Jaekyung Lee (University at Buffalo)

World Education Research Association (WERA) Visiting Researcher

Transforming Lives through Education: A Comparative Study of Korea and South Africa

Date: 01 November 2024

Time: 09:00 – 10:30

Title: Transforming Lives through Education

Venue: Research Commons, Room 4 – 34, Library Building,
Groenkloof campus

Presenter: Prof Jaekyung Lee

RSVP: Please [click](#) here to RSVP

Enquiries: Contact Mr Gabriel Mokoena at gabriel.mokoena@up.ac.za or 012 420 5548

Meeting: [Join the meeting](#)



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ABSTRACT

Transforming Lives through Education: A Comparative Study of Korea and South Africa

Under the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), it is imperative that holistic and equitable high-quality education opportunities be available for all students, but many disadvantaged students get left behind. While South Korea was a war-torn society with low literacy levels, today its young people achieve the highest level of education, and it has become a role model of education-driven nation-building and resilience. However, Korean school system struggles with educational inequalities and mental health problems due to its reliance on high-stakes testing and private tutoring. What lessons can developing nations learn from Korea? How can the Global South achieve SDG in effective and efficient yet holistic and equitable ways? What are the key enablers (protective factors) of at-risk students' academic resilience in South Africa? Drawing upon his research using large-scale international data such as TIMSS (Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study), Prof. Jaekyung Lee shares cross-cultural policy insights for educational transformations in South Africa.

BIO

Prof Jaekyung Lee (Ph.D. University of Chicago) is a professor and former dean of education at the University at Buffalo, SUNY. Being a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), Prof Lee is an international leader in educational policy research, assessment and evaluation, particularly on the issues of educational equity and accountability. He has authored several books on this topic, including *The Anatomy of Achievement Gaps* (Oxford University Press, 2016), and *Centering Whole-Child Development in Global Education Reform* (Routledge, 2022). Being a Fulbright Global Inform Scholar and World Education Research Association (WERA) Visiting Researcher, Lee also leads international education research project to inform evidence-based policy interventions for disadvantaged and marginalized students in the world.



Professor Jaekyung Lee

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