

DG04: RESEARCH BY TEACHERS, RESEARCH WITH TEACHERS

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This new Discussion Group is a follow-up from the Plenary Panel *Teachers who navigate between their research and their practice* held at PME 27/PME-NA 25 in Hawai'i in 2003. We invite all who are interested in practitioner research, especially teachers who are (or wish to be) researchers in schools as well as university people who would like to do collaborative research with teachers in schools.

We are proposing several questions which examine the Panel topic more extensively. The first set of questions are general ones:

- Why do practitioner research? Should all teachers do practitioner research?
- Are there differences in the research results if the direction is teacher \Rightarrow teacher researcher or researcher \Rightarrow teacher? If yes, what are the main differences?
- Should faculties of education prepare practitioners to do education research? If yes, how?
- What might teacher researchers working alone, or working in collaboration with university researchers, contribute to educational research?

The second set of ideas deals with practical questions concerning teachers' daily tasks in schools, and their (possible) relationship to teacher research:

- What does it mean when we say that “this approach or activity works”?
- How do we evaluate something to be “better” than something else, as for example a way of teaching a certain topic? For whom is it better? Why is it better?
- Do we have any evidence to show that it works better for certain students? On what basis are we claiming whatever it is we are claiming?
- What was happened in terms of learning and/or teaching?

These questions will provide a general framework for the two Discussion Group sessions.

Reference

- Novotná, J., Lebethe, A., Rosen, G., & Zack, V. (2003). Navigating between theory and practice. Teachers who navigate between their research and their practice. Plenary Panel. In N. Pateman, B. J. Dougherty, & J. T. Zilliox (Eds.), *Proceedings of the 2003 Joint Meeting of PME 27 and PME-NA 25* (Vol. 1, pp. 69-99), Honolulu, Hawaii, July 13-18, 2003.

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