

Policy Issues in Post-Secondary Education

Higher Education Systems in a Shifting Global Marketplace

A 2008-2009 CHET/Green College Interdisciplinary Lecture Series

Wednesday, February 4

5:00-6:30 PM, Coach House at Green College

Schisms and Scapes:

Knowledge econom/ies in Canada's policies

Dr. Tara Fenwick, Dr. Kjell Rubenson, Tara Gibb, & Judith Walker,
University of British Columbia

Federal policy addressing workplace education and learning, embedded in by now widely-recognised rhetoric of the knowledge economy, has unfolded along two broad trajectories in the 21st century. One continues to emphasise *skill* acquisition in a conventional deficit-oriented, individualist and universalist model of work education, where the educational goals are upskilling through control and measurement. The other urges *innovation* as the prime mover of the new economy, where the goals are formulating (and attracting) a 'creative class' through environments appropriately conducive to invention. These two trajectories - and all sorts of related (and unrelated) tributaries - proliferate very different understandings and educational 'scapes' of knowledge and what is valued as knowledge, the learning subject and the learning collective, and the relation of knowledge and learning to productivity and economic measures. In effect their dual movements open interesting schisms and ambivalences. Within an overall neo-liberal governmental approach that directs through distribution of resources, these schisms interrupt a repressive vocational agenda for education and actually open spaces where new scapes might unfold.

Thursday, March 19

5:00-6:15 PM, [Coach House](#) at Green College [updated location]

*American Universities, Innovation,
and the Promise of Economic Growth*

Dr. Creso Sá, University of Toronto

Dr. Creso Sá is assistant professor of higher education at the Ontario Institutes for Studies in Education of the University of Toronto. His main interests are research universities and science policy. His study of universities and economic development, with co-author Roger Geiger, *Tapping the Riches of Science: Universities and the Promise of Economic Growth*, will be published by Harvard University Press in Fall, 2008. His work has appeared in journals such as *Minerva: A Review of Science, Learning and Policy*, *Higher Education: The International Journal of Higher Education and Educational Planning*, and *Review of Policy Research: The Politics and Policy of Science and Technology*. He earned a Ph.D. in higher education from the Pennsylvania State University before joining the University of Toronto in 2006.

Please join us for dinner after the talks at Green College. Reservations for dinner should be made by 12 noon of the business day preceding the dinner. To book, please call the kitchen (24 hours) at 604-822-0912, leaving your name, phone number, total number of people attending, and let them know if any vegetarian meals are required. Dinner is served from 6:15 to 7:30 pm. Tickets can be purchased in advance at the Green College office, or by phone (604-822-8660), Monday - Friday, 9 am - 4 pm. Price is \$12.00 for university students or \$16.00 for non-students.
(Directions to Green College: <http://www.greencollege.ubc.ca/About/p-about.htm>)