The Griffith Institute for Educational Research, Griffith University invites you to their *Learning and Social Change* seminar:

**Mobilizing, Educating, and Engaging with Policy: The Power and Limits of Community-Based and Participatory Action Research**

**By Associate Professor Shauna Butterwick**  
*Department of Educational Studies, University of British Columbia, Vancouver (Canada)*  
*Chaired by Professor Stephen Billett*

Shauna Butterwick is an Associate Professor of Adult Education in the Department of Educational Studies at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. She has taught community-based adult education and community based research and also uses these approaches (as well as popular education and popular theatre) in her research. Some of the issues she has explored using CBR and PAR include learning in social movements (particularly feminist coalitions), women’s workplace learning, welfare reform, and the changing political economy of Adult Basic Education (ABE). She is currently working with the National Alliance of Philippine Women of Canada (NAPWC) as the external evaluator of their “Making the Filipino Community Count” initiative which is the focus of this seminar.

**Abstract**

This seminar will explore the capacity building, mobilizing, educating and politicizing that can occur through community-based and participatory action research. Indeed, it will be argued that community-based research (CBR) and participatory action research (PAR) are a powerful, and often overlooked, forms of knowledge mobilization. This discussion will be based on a case study of how CBR and PAR were the foundation of a three year project funded by Multiculturalism Canada that focused on building capacity in the Canadian Filipino Community to address urgent concerns of economic marginalization, violence against women and youth, and family breakdown. This case study illustrates how CBR and PAR served as the cornerstone for this project which, together with the skills and commitment of women’s leadership in the Filipino community, and the inclusion of arts-based cultural activities, led to significant community engagement and politicization, and, to a certain extent, transformation. The project had some success with policy engagement; project leaders also faced significant challenges in their efforts to change dominant, discriminatory and market-based approaches to labour, immigration and migration policy that created conditions for the exploitation of Filipino migrants, mostly women. Reflecting on the matter of knowledge mobilization, most particularly policy engagement, this case study illustrates the power and challenges of CBR and PAR.

**Thursday 7 May**

4.30pm – 6.00pm  
Room 5.01, Level 5, M10 Social Science, Mt Gravatt campus

Guests are welcome to join us for refreshments prior to the seminar. Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment. Cost: FREE.

To RSVP, please contact Leslie Murphy on (07) 3735 5779 or gier@griffith.edu.au by Thursday 30 April 2009.