The Griffith Institute for Educational Research, Griffith University would like to invite you to the Learning and Social Change seminar:

**Curriculum innovation through materials design: Lessons learnt from English as a foreign language**

By Professor Daniel Stotz

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**Abstract**

Recent reforms in state schools in some of Switzerland’s cantons have seen English as a foreign language subject introduced into lower primary school. Evidence from a 3-year evaluation study suggests that to make foreign language learning sustainable over 8 years with only 90 to 120 minutes per week, it is beneficial to link English with other subjects. The curriculum and the materials that have been designed for this purpose are cross-curricular and offer a hands-on task-based approach to foreign language learning.

The seminar offers some insights into the arduous process of transferring research insights into classroom practice. The course book series Explorers and its methodological background are presented. One of the key objectives was to include teachers in the design and innovation process as far as possible and to make use of up-to-date media in order to link up with school children’s interests and learning habits.

**Monday 10th November**

6.00pm – 7.00pm
Level 5 Seminar Room, M10 Social Science Building, Research Precinct, Mt Gravatt campus

*The doors open at 5.30pm.* Guests are welcome to join us for refreshments prior to the seminar. Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

To RSVP, please contact Martina Meissner on (07) 3735 5779 or gier@griffith.edu.au by Friday 7 November 2008.