

CURRICULA VITAE OF THE SPEAKERS:



Ph.D. Scott Barry Kaufman, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Psychology at New York University

Scott Barry Kaufman is a cognitive psychologist specializing in the development of intelligence, creativity, and personality. He is Adjunct Assistant Professor of Psychology at New York University and Co-founder of The Creativity Post, a non-profit web platform that features quality content on creativity, innovation and imagination. He also writes the blog Beautiful Minds for Psychology Today, and he is a contributing writer for Scientific American, Harvard Business Review, and Huffington Post.



Prof. Fernando M. Reimers, Director of Global Education and of International Education Policy at Harvard University

Fernando M. Reimers is the Ford Foundation Professor of International Education and Director of Global Education and of International Education Policy at Harvard University. He teaches courses on the relationship between education policy, democratic citizenship, instructional improvement and educational innovation and social entrepreneurship.

His current research focuses on educational innovation and the impact of education policy, leadership, and teacher professional development on literacy competencies, citizenship and advanced skills and competencies. He recently led the development of a global studies K-12 curriculum for Avenues, a global network of independent schools. He serves on the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education.



Prof. Emin Karip, *President of Board of Education and Discipline*

Prof. Emin Karip specializes in educational administration, educational change, and quantitative analysis in educational policy research. Karip used to be an Instructor at the Department of Educational Sciences, Faculty of Gazi Education, Gazi University. He is the President of Board of Education and Discipline in Ministry of National Education since 2011.



Associate Prof. Joshua Aronson, Associate Professor of Applied Psychology at New York University

Most of his work seeks to understand and remediate race and gender gaps in educational achievement and standardized test performance. His research interests focus on Applied Psychology and Psychological Development.

A particular focus of his recent work is on creating scalable interventions that any teacher can use to improve the performance and learning of their students.



Prof. Robert Pianta, Dean of the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia

Robert C. Pianta is Dean of the Curry School of Education at the University of Virginia. He also holds positions as the Novartis Professor of Education and the director of the Curry School's Center for Advanced Study of Teaching and Learning (CASTL), Professor of Psychology at the U.Va. College of Arts & Sciences, and Director at the National Center for Research in Early Childhood Education.

A former special education teacher, Pianta's research focuses on investigating the effects of schooling on children's social and academic outcomes and on improving school and classroom experiences through teachers' professional development. He is the author of more than four hundred journal articles, chapters, and books in the areas of early childhood development, transition to school, school readiness, and parent-child and teacher-child relationships, and he consults regularly with Federal agencies, Foundations, and universities.



Ph.D. Joseph Allen, Director of University of Virginia, Adolescent Research Group

Ph.D. Joseph Allen's research interests are focus on adolescent social development, family relations, peer relations & problematic behaviors.

Development of peer influence and peer pressure in adolescence, intervention research to alter the quality of interactions taking place within secondary school classrooms, Development of Autonomy and Relatedness in Adolescent and Young Adult Social Interactions (with parents, peers, and romantic partners) and Adolescent attachment organization are the specific topics that Joseph Allen works on.



Ph.D. Francesco Avvisati, Analyst at the Centre for Educational Research and Development, OECD

Avvisati currently works on analysis, research and coordination of the Innovation Strategy for Education and Training project, that examines links between innovation and education.

Francesco joined Centre for Educational Research and Development (CERI) of OECD in 2010, after completing a PhD at the Paris School of Economics. His research centred on the benefits of parental involvement programmes for school achievement and behaviour of middle school students.

Francesco Avvisati holds a PhD in Economics from the Paris School of Economics, a Bachelor in Economics from the Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna (Pisa, Italy), and is an alumnus of the Ecole Normale Supérieure in Paris.



Chair: Prof. Dr. Üstün Ergüder, Director of Education Reform Initiative (ERI)

Üstün Ergüder, Emeritus Professor at Sabancı University, received his undergraduate degree (BA Admin.) from Manchester University in England. He undertook his graduate studies at The Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs of Syracuse University (New York, USA), received his Ph.D. degree in Political Science in 1970 and joined the academic staff of Boğaziçi University. He has also been at the University of Michigan as a "Research Scholar" and taught at Syracuse University as well as the State University of New York, Binghamton, when on leave from Boğaziçi University. Between August 1992 and August 2000, he served as the Rector of Boğaziçi University for two consecutive terms. Prior to his appointment as Rector, he chaired the Department of Political Science and International Relations. Between November 2001 and June 2010 Dr. Ergüder served as the Director of the Istanbul Policy Center at Sabancı University. He is the author of various articles and books published in Turkey and abroad. He has also led and participated in several local and international collaborative projects involving survey research. He, currently, directs the Education Reform Initiative, an advocacy project located at Sabancı University and funded by 20 different Foundations the missions of which are education reform. Dr. Ergüder is the President of the Council of Magna Charta Observatory of Academic Freedom and Institutional Autonomy located in Bologna, Italy, and chairs the Executive Committee and the Board of Trustees of the Third Sector Foundation of Turkey. He is a member of the Executive Board of Vehbi Koc Foundation and of the Board of Trustees of Özyeğin University.



Assoc. Prof. Ömer Açıkgöz, Ministry of Education, Vocational and Technical Education Director General

Assoc. Prof. Ömer Açıkgöz, completed his primary and secondary education in Gaziantep and undergraduate academic degree at the Department of Technology Education of the Vocational Education Faculty of Gazi University in Ankara. He got his master's degree in "Air Conditioning and Refrigeration" field at the same department and PHD degree and Assoc. Prof. Title from the Department of Economics of Marmara University.

He worked as an advisor for the Chairman for the Council of Higher Education in the field of Vocational and Technical Higher Education for about 4 years. He worked as a co-director in the project "Strengthening Human Resources Development through Vocational and Technical Education", which covers universities in eight provinces representing for the Council of Higher Education. He worked as an expert of Bologna in the project of Bologna, which tries to make Higher Education of Turkey compatible with the one of Europe. He worked in the restructuring of Vocational and Technical Education of Higher Education as a member of the Commission for the Strengthening Vocational and Technical Education of the Council of Higher Education. Beside the membership of the Commission for the Strengthening Vocational and Technical Education of the Council of Higher Education and Board of Vocational Qualifications Authority, he worked as a co-director in the projects "Strengthening Life Long Learning in Turkey" and "Strengthening the Quality of Vocational and Technical Education in Turkey".

Assoc. Prof. Ömer AÇIKGÖZ was appointed as General Director of Vocational and Technical Education of Ministry of National Education on 26th October, 2011.



Doç. Dr. Selçuk Şirin, Associate Professor of Applied Psychology at New York University

Dr. Selcuk R. Sirin's areas of interest primarily focuses on Applied Psychology, Administration Leadership and Technology, Psychological Development. Dr. Sirin conducted a major meta-analytical review of research on socioeconomic status and he co-produced the Racial and Ethical Sensitivity Test (REST) and accompanying training program for school professionals. He also served as the Research Coordinator for the Partnership for Teacher Excellence project at NYU in collaboration with New York City School of Education. Dr. Selcuk R. Sirin is the recipient of Teaching Excellence Award from Boston College, Young Scholar Award from the Foundation for Child Development for his project on immigrant children, and Review of Research Award from the American Educational Research Association (AERA) given in recognition of an outstanding article published in education.



Prof. M. Yaşar Özden, Dean of Faculty Education, Middle East Technical University

M. Yaşar Özden received his B.S. degree in Biology from the Hacettepe University in 1978, and M.S. degree in biology from the Middle East Technical University in 1985. He received his Ph. D. degree in Biology from the Middle East Technical University in 1990. He started his academic career at the Department of Science Education (Biology Education), Middle East Technical University in 1992 as an assistant professor, then became associate at the same department and full professor at the department of Computer Education & Instructional Technologies. He served as assistant director in the Council of Higher Education-World Bank “National Education Development Project” At the moment he is the dean of Faculty Education, Middle East Technical University. He has published several articles in national and international journals. He is actively working on the use of multimedia on the WEB, teacher education through WEB and distance education.



Prof. İrfan Erdoğan, Department Head of Educational Sciences, İstanbul University

Prof. İrfan Erdoğan received his undergraduate degree from Gazi University Educational Sciences Department. He completed his graduate and post graduate studies at Columbia University. He did his masters on education economics and did his PhD on National Education and Development. He has published several books and articles about education. He was the President of Board of Education and Discipline during 2006-2008. He has been Department Head of the Educational Sciences of Hasan Ali Yücel Education Faculty at İstanbul University.



Chair: Prof. Dr. Hasan Şimşek Vice President of Bahçeşehir University

He received his B.S. degree in Education from the Middle East Technical University in 1982, an M.S. degree in Educational Administration and Planning from Hacettepe University in 1985, an M.A. degree in Educational Administration and Policy Analysis from the University of Minnesota in 1989, and a Ph.D. degree in the same field from the University of Minnesota in 1992. He started his academic career at the Middle East Technical University in 1993, became assistant, associate and full professor at the same university. He was the assistant dean between 1995-1998, and chair of the Department of Educational Sciences between 2002-2004. He served as consultant in the Ministry of National Education (MNE)-World Bank (WB) `National Education Development Project, MNE-WB “Vocational Education Development Project” and as assistant director in the Council of Higher Education-WB “Preservice Teacher Education Project.” He has extensively published in national and international journals and book chapters in higher education, educational leadership, organizational change, planning and qualitative research. He is the author of several books such as “The War of Paradigms at the Edge of the 21. Century and Turkey in Chaos” and “Total Quality Management: Theory, Principles, and Applications. He is also the co-author of “Qualitative Research Methods in Social Sciences” (the first and the only textbook on this title in Turkish).