“History of the Present” – Poststructural Perspectives on Education and Educational Research

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Keywords: poststructuralism, history of education, philosophy of education, sociology of education

Inspired by - but not restricted to – the work of Michel Foucault, this theme group wishes to bring together researchers whose investigations are characterized by an interest in the ‘history of the present’. From this perspective, instead of perceiving educational processes in a continuum of linear, historical development, the concern lies in making visible the historical trajectories that make possible certain ways of thinking about education and the citizen/subject, and thus in disrupting modern notions of progress and accompanying visions of a brighter future. We welcome presentations (in both Finnish and English) that offer historicized ways of thinking about the past and current conditions of education in institutional and other contexts.

Theme group activities will be based on academic conventions familiar to those working in the areas of philosophy, history and sociology of education; i.e. 10-15 min presentations followed by 10-15 min discussion. Each session will be chaired by one of the theme group organizers. The theme group is bilingual (Finnish & English).

To engage with current theorisations, conceptualisations and analyses in the areas of the philosophy, history and sociology of education with an ethico-political interest in historicising the present and thus opening up possibilities for new ways of thinking and action.

Please send your proposal to address jani.kukkola@oulu.fi johanna.san@oulu.fi anne.j.koskela@oulu.fi no later than October 1st 2014.