

**2025 WCGTC World Conference
Braga, Portugal, 29 July – 2 Aug 2025**

Proposal

Submission ID: 158

Mode: Panel Discussion

Title:

Boundaryless development of gifted education: international collaboration for teacher professional development and programmes for the gifted and talented students

Presenters:

1. Dr. Patrick Hak Chung Lam, Chief Principal, ELCHK Lutheran Academy; Founding Chairman, Hong Kong Professional Association for the Gifted and Talented (Chairman of the Symposium)
2. Prof. Lianne Hoogeveen, former President, European Council for High Ability
3. Dr. Vasilii Pavlov, Rector, Sakha Science Academy

Topic areas:

1. Programming, curriculum and pedagogy
2. STEAM
3. Teacher education

Abstract

International collaboration offers a new dimension for the advancement of gifted education in both teacher training and enrichment programmes. Collaboration within the Asia-Pacific region and that with the European community and experts worldwide have created a learning community that is conducive to the sustainable development of GE. Three delegates representing the European Council for High Ability, Hong Kong and Sakha Science Academy will each give a 15-minute overview of their international programmes for teachers and gifted students. Afterwards, a panel discussion is held to encapsulate the unique outcomes and achievements of those collaborations, and the insights of further development. (99 words)

Content

International collaboration offers a new dimension for the advancement of gifted education in both teacher training and enrichment programmes. Collaboration within the Asia-Pacific region and that with the European community and experts worldwide have created a learning community that is conducive to the sustainable development of GE in the regions engaged. The collaboration enabled the participants not only to deepen the contextual understanding of GE, but also to share their expertise in providing unique learning experiences for the gifted children. This synergy, therefore, is a window to numerous possibilities of support for the gifted.

To begin the panel discussion, three delegates representing the European Council for High Ability, Hong Kong and Sakha Science Academy will each give a 15-minute overview of their international programmes for teachers and gifted students. Afterwards, a panel discussion is held to encapsulate the unique outcomes and achievements of those collaborations, and the insights of further development.

Sharing 1: GE teacher training of European Council for High Ability (ECHA) in Hong Kong

Prof. Lianne Hagooveen will share the GE teacher training programme of Radboud International Training on High Ability (RITHA) recognised by the European Council for High Ability (ECHA) for Hong Kong teachers in collaboration with the Education University of Hong Kong in 2021-2023 and the scaling up in 2024-2026.

Sharing 2: International collaboration for gifted programmes: Arctic Challenge, student exchange, career and life planning

Dr. Patrick Lam will share the international collaboration for unique gifted programmes, including *Arctic Challenge* 2016-2023 on paleontological and ecological inquiries with arctic experience in Siberia, Hong Kong-Yakutia student exchange since 2017, and the career and life planning programmes with international partners in 2020-2024.

Sharing 3: International collaboration for gifted programme: aerospace engineering and arctic experience 2023-2024

Dr. Vasilii Pavlov will share the first-ever satellite jointly created by the secondary school students of Hong Kong and Yakutia with the guidance of Sakha Science Academy and international experts. The journey includes a weekly online course from Nov 2023 to March 2024, production in-situ together and test in March 2024, and the data analysis for tracking the impacts of climate change on human activities afterwards.

Panel discussion (20 minutes):

The ways of making international collaboration for GE happen and the unique benefits to the stakeholders would be synthesised, followed by insights of further development of gifted education amongst regions. An open forum of answering questions and comments from the audience is facilitated. (399 words)

Biography

Dr. Patrick Lam has been a reflective practitioner in the educational field for 32 years, including service in Hong Kong and New Zealand governments, part-time lecturing, visiting professorship and school principalship. He has been the speaker of over 500 seminars, workshops and conferences in tertiary institutions, schools and parent groups in 20 countries. He has been a learning experience designer and instructor of many stimulating gifted education programmes across 7 continents, including numerous Arctic and Antarctica expeditions, first-ever satellite and propellant rocket produced by Hong Kong students, afforestation in Inner Mongolian desert, African service trip, to name but a few. (100 words)

Prof. Dr. Lianne Hoogeveen is a leading expert in gifted education and talent development at Radboud University, the Netherlands. She specializes in identifying, supporting, and counseling gifted individuals and directs the Radboud International Training on High Ability (RITHA), training professionals globally. Her research focuses on the social and emotional development of gifted individuals and educational interventions. As a licensed psychologist, she works directly with gifted individuals at CBO Talent Development. Additionally, she collaborates internationally and serves as President of the European Council for High Ability, enhancing support for high-ability students worldwide. (91 words)

Dr. Vasilii Pavlov has an extensive professional background, currently serving as Rector (President) of the Sakha Science Academy (a training institute for gifted students) from 2017 to present. He was previously an Executive Director at the Foundation for the Advancement of Culture, Science, and Education. His earlier roles include assistant to the Vice-President of the Republic of Sakha, Chief Advisor at the Permanent Representative Office, and various positions in UNESCO and foreign relations. (73 words)

References

Bengio, E., Margaliot, A., Saar-Hyams, R., and Benakovic, K. (2021). Two centres for the gifted: One Moon – the programme. *International Journal for Talent Development and Creativity*, 9(1), 143-156.

Leung, A.K.Y., Maddux, W.W., Galinsky, A.D., and Chu, C.Y. (2008). Multicultural experience enhances creativity: the when and how. *American Psychology* 63(3), 169-181.

European Council for High Ability Training: <https://echa-site.eu/echa-training>

Radboud International Training on High Ability: <https://www.ru.nl/en/radboud-centre-social-sciences/education/training-on-high-ability/training-on-high-ability-ritha>

- End -