

Public lecture

The **Institute of Pedagogical and Educational Research (IPER)** invites all who are interested to attend a public lecture on

Learning Design for Science Literacy and Representational Competence

Presenter Engida Hailye Gebre (PhD), Simon Fraser University, Canada

Date August 4, 2017 (Hamle 28, 2009 E.C.)

Place Old Senate Hall **Time:** 9:00am (3:00 o'clock LT)



Dr. Engida H. Gebre is Assistant Professor of Learning Sciences and Technologies in the Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University (SFU), Vancouver, Canada. His research area focuses on data/science literacy for young adults, grounded design of learning environments, learning technologies as cognitive tools, semiotic and representational competence, and the role of context and design-based research in education. Dr. Engida received his PhD in Learning Sciences from McGill University (Canada), his M. Sc. in Information Technology and B.Sc. in Education from Addis Ababa University. Before taking up his current position at SFU, Dr. Engida worked as a research associate in the School of Education at University of Colorado Boulder where he still works as a Co-Principal Investigator on a collaborative research project funded by the US National Science Foundation (NSF). He also worked as adjunct professor at University of Missouri, St. Louis (UMSL) and as lecturer and academic administrator at Addis Ababa University (AAU).

Presentation Abstract

Two of the most observable trends in science education in western countries over the last two decades have been a) the considerable emphasis on science literacy involving both understanding of content and use of complex representational tools, and b) the essential role of context as a base for scientific understanding. As opposed to the second half of the 20th century that focused on science education for the sole purpose of producing scientists, the early years of the 21st century are marked by science literacy initiatives with the purpose of fostering informed citizenship and consumer-oriented science education (science for everyday life). However, designing learning environments and research projects to address these contemporary perspectives has been challenging for educators and researchers. Dr. Engida's presentation draws from a five-year design-based research (with secondary schools in the US and Canada) on "STEM Literacy through Infographics" and suggests ways of fostering science literacy, representational competence, and context-oriented design of learning environments. He also makes a case for possible application of learned experiences to the Ethiopian context.

Staff members who are interested to attend the lecture please confirm us your presence through our E-mail: bdu.iper@yahoo.com or by calling to +251 91 876 6232 (mobile); +251 58 320 2015 (landline) until Friday, 28th July, 2017 (Hamle 21, 2009 E.C.)