

Kevin O'Connor

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University of Colorado at Boulder
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Education

Clark University, Ph.D., Psychology, 2001

Dissertation: *Communicative practice and the production of continuity and change in the social organization of a learning context*

Saint Joseph's University, B.A., Philosophy, 1987

Academic Positions

University of Colorado at Boulder

Assistant Professor, School of Education, 2010-present

University of Rochester

Assistant Professor, Warner School of Education & Human Development, 2005-2010

University of Washington, Seattle

Research Associate, College of Education, Area of Educational Psychology: NSF Grant, *Center for the Advancement of Engineering Education*, 2003-2005

Lecturer, College of Education, Area of Educational Psychology, 2004

University of Wisconsin-Madison

Associate Researcher, Wisconsin Center for Education Research, *National Research Center on English Learning and Achievement*, 2001-2003

Lecturer, Department of Psychology, 2001-2003

Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Visiting Lecturer, Department of Social Science and Policy Studies, 1996

Research Associate, Department of Mechanical Engineering: NSF/TRP Grant, *The Realization Consortium*, 1995-1997

Clark University

Research Assistant, Department of Psychology: NSF Grant, *The Use of Models in Students' Understanding of Heat and Temperature*, 1995-1996

Teaching Assistant, Department of Psychology, 1989-1994

Research Assistant, Department of Psychology: Spencer Foundation Grant, *The*

Socialization of Values and Cognition, 1990-1992

Harvard University

Research Assistant, Educational Technology Center: NSF Grant, *The Use of Models in Students' Understanding of Heat and Temperature*, 1993-1995

Publications and Presentations

Journal Articles (peer reviewed)

O'Connor, K. & Penuel, W.R. (under revision). Organizing as a Metaphor for Trajectories of Science Learning Across Settings and Time. Submitted to *Journal of the Learning Sciences*.

Hanny, C. & O'Connor, K. (2013). A dialogical approach to conceptualizing resident participation in community organizing. *Mind, Culture, and Activity*, 20, 4, 338-357.

Larson, J., Ares, N., and O'Connor K. (2011). Introduction: Power and Positioning in Purposeful Community Change. *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*, 42, 2, 88-102.

O'Connor, K., Hanny, C., & Lewis, C. (2011). Doing "business as usual": Dynamics of voice in community organizing talk. *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*, 42, 2, 154-171.

Stevens, R., O'Connor, K., Garrison, L., Jocuns, A. & Amos, D. (2008). Becoming an engineer: Toward a three dimensional view of engineering learning. *Journal of Engineering Education*, 97, 355-368.

O'Connor, K. (2001). Contextualization and the negotiation of social identities in a geographically distributed situated learning project. *Linguistics & Education*, 12, 285-308.

Wertsch, J.V. & O'Connor, K. (1994). Multivoicedness in historical representation: American college students' accounts of the origins of the U.S. *Journal of Narrative and Life History*, 4, 295-309.

Edited Works

O'Connor, K., Ares, N., and Larson, J., Eds. (2011). Power and Positioning in Purposeful Community Change. Special issue of *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*, 42, 2.

Penuel, W.R. & O'Connor, K., Eds. (2010). *Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education*, 108, 1: Learning research as a human science.

Book Chapters

O'Connor, K., Comparini, L., Dine Young, S., & Allen, A-R. (in press, 2014). Dilemmas of becoming in *Searching for Bobby Fischer*. In D. Liston and I. Renga (Eds.), *Teaching and Learning in the Movies*. London: Routledge.

Johri, A., Olds, B.M., and O'Connor, K. (2014). Situative frameworks for engineering learning research. In B. Olds and A. Johri (Eds.), *Cambridge Handbook of Engineering Education Research*, pp. 47-66. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Stevens, R., Johri, A., and O'Connor, K. (2014). Professional engineering work. In B. Olds and A. Johri (Eds.), *Cambridge Handbook of Engineering Education Research*, pp. 119-138. New York: Cambridge University Press.

O'Connor, K. & Penuel, W.R. (2010). Introduction: Learning research as human science. W.R. Penuel & K. O'Connor (Eds.), *Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education*, 108, 1: Learning research as a human science, pp. 1-16.

O'Connor, K. & Allen, A. (2010). Learning as the organizing of social futures. W.R. Penuel & K. O'Connor (Eds.), *Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education*, 108, 1: Learning research as a human science, pp. 160-175.

Penuel, W.R. & O'Connor, K. (2010). Learning research as a human science: Old wine in new bottles? W.R. Penuel & K. O'Connor (Eds.), *Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education*, 108, 1: Learning research as a human science, pp. 268-283.

O'Connor, K. (2003). Communicative practice, cultural production, and situated learning: Constructing and contesting identities of expertise in a heterogeneous learning context. In S. Wortham and B. Rymes (Eds.), *Linguistic anthropology of education*. Westport, CT: Praeger.

O'Connor, K. & Glenberg, A.M. (2003). Situated cognition. In L. Nadel (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of cognitive science*. London: Nature Publishing Group.

Manuscripts in Preparation

O'Connor, K. Engineering motives: Ideologies in practice in undergraduate student engineering talk.

O'Connor, K. & Stevens, R. Dilemmas of becoming: A three dimensional approach to understanding consequential learning.

Conference Proceedings (peer reviewed)

O'Connor, K., Bailey, T., Garrison, L., Jones, M., Lichtenstein, G., Loshbaugh, H., Perhamus, L., Seward, D., Stevens, R. (2007). Sponsorship: Engineering's tacit gatekeeper. *Proceedings of the 2007 ASEE Annual Conference and Exposition*,

Honolulu, Hawaii, June 24-27.

O'Connor, K., Perhamus, L., Seward, D., and Stevens, R. (2006). Engineering student identities in the undergraduate curriculum: "Sponsorship" and the social production of engineers. In *Proceedings of the 2006 New England ASEE Conference*, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Stevens, R., O'Connor, K., & Garrison, L. (2005). Engineering Student Identities in the Navigation of the Undergraduate Curriculum. In *Proceedings of the American Society for Engineering Education Annual Conference*, Portland, Oregon, June 12-15, 2005.

Journal Articles (non-peer reviewed)

O'Connor, K., Garrison, L., Jocuns, A., & Stevens, R., (2009). Becoming an engineer: Studying learning as access to valued futures. *Annals of Research in Engineering Education*, 4, 2. Available from: <http://www.areeonline.org/?id=7887>

Bhatia, S., Comparini, L., & O'Connor, K. (2000). Conflict, communicative practices, and human development: Probing and expanding practice-based approaches in light of Bernard Kaplan's Genetic-Dramatism. *Clark Working Papers on Developmental Psychology*, 2, 1-25.

O'Connor, K. (1998). Participation, resistance, and dynamics of the appropriation of sociocultural activities. *Clark Working Papers on Developmental Psychology*, 1, 53-61.

Book Reviews

O'Connor, K. (2002). A review of H.A. Smith, *Psychosemiotics*. *Anthropology & Education Quarterly*, 33. Available from: <http://www.aaanet.org/sections/cae/aeq/br/smith.htm>

O'Connor, K. (2000). A review of W.F. Hanks, *Language and communicative practices*. *Mind, Culture, and Activity*, 7, 249-252.

Invited Presentations and Working Conferences

"Index formation: Assembling knowledge and identity, on and off the rails." Invited presentation, Clark University Freud Centennial Conference, Knowledge, Practice, and Experience: Implications for Psychology, Worcester, Massachusetts, October, 2009.

Invited participant, LIFE Center Workshop on "Networks and trajectories of learning," Blaine, Washington, August, 2008.

"Ethnographic methods: Understanding the collective organizing of social life." Presentation to Pediatric Fellows on Disability, University of Rochester Medical Center, December 5, 2008.

Invited faculty, Mini-course on "Cultural Historical Activity Theory in the World of Educational Quality," Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, April, 2007.

"Semiotic mediation and the production of meaning in situated social activity." Invited presentation, Cognitive and Perceptual Sciences Proseminar, Department of Psychology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, April, 2004.

Invited participant, Working Conference on "Linguistic Ethnography and the Linguistic Anthropology of Education." Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, November 3-4, 2002.

Invited participant, Working Conference on "The Linguistic Anthropology of Education." Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, March 1-2, 2002.

Invited participant, "Workshop on the Linguistic Anthropology of Education." Graduate School of Education, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, April 2, 2000.

Invited participant, Symposium on "The linguistic anthropology of education: What is it?" 21st Annual Ethnography in Education Research Forum, Center for Urban Ethnography, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, April 3, 2000.

"Contexts and communicative practices in workplaces of the future." Invited presentation, Graduate Seminar on the Workplace of the Future: Inquiry into the Process and the Product of Architectural Design, Department of Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, April, 1997.

Recent Conference Presentations

O'Connor, K., and Harris, L. Stance as a resource for constructing and contesting engineering identities. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, April, 2013.

O'Connor, K., Jurow, S., Shea, M., and Litchfield, K. Studying the organizing of consequential learning across time and space. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Francisco, April, 2013.

Jurow, S, O'Connor, K., and Shea, M. Learning takes place. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, April, 2012

Jurow, S, O'Connor, K., and Shea, M. Learning takes place. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Vancouver, April, 2012

Hanny, C.E., Webster, S.E., & O'Connor, K. Re-centering dissent: Trajectories of resident voice in community planning meetings. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Denver, May, 2010.

O'Connor, K., Hanny, C.E., & Lewis, C. Doing "business as usual": Tensions of representation and enactment in community development talk. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, San Diego, April, 2009.

O'Connor, K. Mediated discourse and the organizing of social futures. Second Congress of the International Society for Cultural and Activity Research, San Diego, September 8-13, 2008.

O'Connor, K. The discursive organization of social futures: Working both ends of the learning trajectory. Sociolinguistics Symposium 17, Amsterdam, April, 2008.

Ares, N., O'Connor, K., and Larson, J. Opening the Black Box: Transformative Potential of School/Community Relationships in a Collaborative Urban Change Initiative. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, New York, March, 2008.

O'Connor, K. Communicative practice and boundary crossing in cultural-historical research on learning. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, April 2007.

Ares, N., O'Connor, K., Larson, J., and Carlisle, J. Getting started: First stages of community reform. Annual Meeting of the American Educational Research Association, Chicago, April 2007.

O'Connor, K. Communication, conflict, and the negotiation of social identities in geographically distributed social practice. First Congress of the International Society for Cultural and Activity Research, Sevilla, Spain, September 20-24, 2005.

Grants

2013-2015, Subcontract PI, NSF Research and Evaluation on Education in Science and Engineering (REESE): "Learning Ethnographies of New Engineers: A New Approach to Understanding the Transition from School to Work" \$635,900 (total award \$1.5M).

2013-2014, co-PI, NSF EAGER: "Cognitive Ethnographies of Engineering Design," \$180,000.

2012-2013, co-PI, University of Colorado Boulder, Women Investing in the School of Education (WISE) Grant: "Collaborative Community Research for Promoting Social and Economic Development in a Denver Neighborhood," \$3,356.

2012-2013, co-PI, University of Colorado Boulder Outreach Grant: "Understanding Local Food Practices: Collaborative Community Research for Promoting Economic Development in a Denver Neighborhood," \$21,000.

2012-2015, co-PI, NSF Research in Engineering Education Grant: "Inclusive Excellence to Bolster Diversity: A System of Capacity-Building Pathways To and Through Engineering," \$541,197.

2009, PI, University of Rochester Warner School Faculty Mini-Grant: "Academic Pathways and Beyond: Studying Transitions between Undergraduate Engineering Education and the Engineering Workplace." \$20,000.

2008-2009, co-PI, University of Rochester Warner School Faculty Mini-Grant: "Publishing Engineering Writing" (with MJ Curry). \$20,000.

2006-2008, co-PI, University of Rochester Warner School Faculty Mini-Grant: "Ethnography of the Rochester Children's Zone" (with J. Larson and N. Ares). \$40,000.00

2005-2007, PI, Subcontract with University of Washington, National Science Foundation Center for Teaching and Learning Grant: "Center for the Advancement of Engineering Education." \$120,649.00

Courses Taught

University of Colorado at Boulder, 2010-present

EDUC 4112: Educational Psychology and Adolescent Development
(*undergraduate*)

EDUC 4411: Educational Psychology (*undergraduate*)

EDUC 4610: Mathematics and Science Education, Theory, and Practice
(*undergraduate*)

EDUC 5726: Introduction to Disciplined Inquiry (*masters*)

EDUC 6328: Advanced Child Growth and Educational Development (*masters*)

EDUC 8358: Seminar in Human Development: Learning Science as Human
Science (*doctoral*)

EDUC 8358: Seminar in Human Development: Cognition and Learning in
Practice (*doctoral*)

EDUC_8804: Seminar in Current Theories: Qualitative Research Methods in
Science and Engineering Education (*doctoral*), co-taught with M. Eisenhart and D.
Kotys-Schwartz.

University of Rochester, 2005-2010

ED 507: Qualitative Research Methods (*doctoral*)

ED 581: Discourse Analysis (*doctoral*)

ED 506: Concepts and Issues in Social Science Research (*doctoral*)

ED 557: Selected Theories of Human Development: Mind in Sociocultural
Context (*doctoral*)

ED 557: Development of Selves (*doctoral*)

ED 419: Life Course Studies (*masters*)

ED 418: Adolescent Development and Youth Culture (*masters*)

ED 481: Child Development and Learning in Context (*masters*)

University of Washington, Seattle, 2004

Introduction to Cognitive Studies in Education (*doctoral*)

University of Wisconsin-Madison, 2001-2003

Introduction to Psychology (*undergraduate*)

Child Psychology (*undergraduate*)

Worcester Polytechnic Institute, 1996

Social Psychology (*undergraduate*)

Professional Activities

Editorial Board

Mind, Culture, and Activity, 2013-

Conference Organization

Conference co-Chair, 11th International Conference of the Learning Sciences, Boulder, Colorado, 2014.

Committees

Member, AERA Outstanding Book Award Committee, 2010-2012.

Executive Committee, International Society for Cultural and Activity Research (ISCAR), U.S./Canada Section President, 2008-2011.

Program co-Chair, Cultural-Historical Research Special Interest Group, American Educational Research Association, 2008-11.

University of Colorado, School of Education

Organizing Committee, International Conference of the Learning Sciences, 2011-
Learning Sciences Space Committee, 2011-

Mathematics Education Search Committee, 2011-2012

Miramontes Fellowship Selection Committee, 2011-

Faculty Salary Committee, 2011-

Educational Psychology and Learning Sciences Search Committee, 2010-2011

University of Rochester, Warner School of Education and Human Development

Research Methods Committee, 2006-2010

Doctoral Education Task Force, 2006-2008

Faculty Research Productivity Task Force, 2006-2008

Doctoral Portfolio Review Committee, 2007-2010

Research Subjects Review Board, 2005-2006

Reviewer

- *Mind, Culture, and Activity*
- *Narrative Inquiry*
- *Theory & Psychology*
- *Linguistics & Education*
- *Journal of the Learning Sciences*