

Dear Alliance Member,

Two members of the International Alliance for Invitational Education have recently completed their doctoral dissertations on Invitational Education.

Burns, G.J. (2007) *Invitational Leadership in Public Schools*. Ed.D. Doctoral Dissertation. University of Missouri at Columbia.

ABSTRACT: The purpose of the mixed design study was to examine the perceived effectiveness of leaders who made use of the invitational leadership style when leading their organization. The population for this study consisted of all practicing public school principals in a Midwest state, as well as the teachers who serve under their leadership. The theoretical foundation for this study was leadership theory as viewed through the lens of varying types of leadership models. Findings revealed that there is a statistically significant difference between the usages of invitational leadership qualities in effective schools verses less effective schools. The invitational leadership factor proved to be the undisputed choice for teachers and principals when striving to establish an overall effective school organization. The active use of invitational education was proven in this study to be a leadership model that should be considered effective when seeking to create a healthy, positive, and successful organization. Dr. Burns may be contacted at gwenburns14@yahoo.com.

WONG, Peter K.H. (2007) *A case study of introducing Invitational Education to a secondary school and to evaluate and understand the change process, effectiveness and implications for future school development work*.

ABSTRACT: This dissertation reports on a case study of the introduction of Invitational Education to a secondary school in Hong Kong. This is a very timely study for the Hong Kong education as schools are actively seeking ways to improve and develop in the context of various educational reform movements. The Invitational Education model, though developed in the West, was found to be relevant to the local settings. The case study school experiences could help to plant its "roots" in the Eastern school soil. Invitational Education bound together the literature on school improvement, effectiveness and change management. It thus provided a guiding theory and framework for the entire study. Dr. Wong may be contacted at khwong@emb.gov.hk or khwong.peter@gmail.com.

Congratulations, Drs. Burns and Wong.

William Watson Purkey
IAIE Trustee