

College of Graduate Studies

Indigenous Epistemologies Seminar Series

Re-imagining indigenous knowledge epistemologies in the academy for a sustainable future.

Title: “Transformative Indigenous Epistemologies: Pathways to Social, Economic and Environmental Justice”

DATE: 24 September 2020

TIME: 14:30 – 15:45

TO ATTEND: Join the Seminar on MS Teams

<https://bit.ly/354C7Am>



Speaker: Prof Donna M Mertens

“Bio”

Mertens is Professor Emeritus at Gallaudet University with a specialization in research and evaluation methodologies designed to support social transformation. She has authored, co-authored, or edited many books related to evaluation methods and human rights, most recently Program Evaluation Theory and Practice 2nd ed; Mixed Methods Design in Evaluation; Research and Evaluation in Education and Psychology: Integrating Diversity with Quantitative, Qualitative, and Mixed Methods 5th ed.; Indigenous Pathways into Social Research, and Transformative Research and Evaluation. She focuses on the intersection of research and evaluation with social, economic and environmental justice and human rights within the philosophical assumptions of the transformative paradigm. Mertens served as the editor for the Journal of Mixed Methods Research 2010–2014. She was President of the American Evaluation Association in 1998 and served on the Board from 1997 to 2002; she was a founding board member of the International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation and the Mixed Methods International Research Association.

“Abstract”

Indigenous communities are in a unique position to make contributions to a sustainable future that is characterized by an increase in social, economic and environmental justice. As a non-Indigenous person immersed in transformative research, I have benefited from the knowledge that Indigenous scholars have shared with me about their relational epistemologies. I will integrate transformative and Indigenous epistemologies to demonstrate their commonalities that guide methodological decisions to enhance human rights and justice as part of the research process that lead to transformative change.

ENQUIRIES: wolhuhs@unisa.ac.za

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