

Kenneth K. Wong

Walter and Leonore Annenberg Chair for Education Policy, Brown University, USA

Professor of Political Science, Public Policy, and Urban Studies

Director, Urban Education Policy Program

Areas of Interest: Education governance and politics, school funding reform, accountability and equity issues in the US.



Kenneth Wong is the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Chair for Education Policy at Brown as well as professor of political science, public policy, and urban studies. He has conducted extensive research in the politics of education, federalism, policy innovation, outcome-based accountability, and governance redesign (including city and state takeover, management reform, and Title I school-wide reform). His research has received support from the National Science Foundation, the US Department of Education, the Social Science Research Council, the Spencer Foundation, the Joyce Foundation, the Broad Foundation, the British Council, Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Wong has advised the US Secretaries of Education and Interior, US Congress, state legislature, governor and mayoral offices, and the leadership in several large urban school systems on how to redesign the accountability framework. He was editor of a major educational policy journal, Education Evaluation and Policy Analysis. He holds BA (Hons), MA and PhD degrees in political science from the University of Chicago.

Public Lecture by Tin Ka Ping Distinguished Visiting Scholar

Federalism & Education: Cross national lessons

Federalism, as a system of decentralized governance, has played a central role in charting educational progress in many countries. With an evolving balance between centralization and decentralization, federalism is designed to promote accountability standards without tempering regional and local preferences. Federalism facilitates negotiations both vertically between the central authority and local entities as well as horizontally among diverse interests. Innovative educational practices are often validated by a few local entities prior to scaling up to the national level. Federalism encourages a certain degree of competition at the local and regional level.

Given these critical issues in federalism and education, this presentation examines ongoing challenges and policy strategies in ten countries, namely Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom, and the United States. These case studies, recently published in an edited volume, aim to examine how countries with federal systems govern, finance, and assure quality in their educational systems spanning from early childhood to secondary school graduation. Particular attention is given to functional division between governmental layers of the federal system as well as mechanisms of intergovernmental cooperation both vertically and horizontally. The presentation aim to draw out education policy lessons across the ten federal systems.

Mar 11 | Mon
2:30pm –
4:30pm

Venue: Room 201, 2/F
Ho Tim Building, Chung Chi College,
The Chinese University of Hong Kong (HTB 201)

For students or staff of the Faculty of Education, CUHK only:

In-house Seminar for Postgraduate Students
**Considering different perspectives
on urban school governance**

Mar 5 | Tue
2:30pm –
4:00pm

Venue: HTB 201

Mar 7 | Thu
2:30pm –
4:00pm

In-house Research Seminar for Academic and Professional Staff
**Federal policy in U.S. education:
Equity, accountability, and innovation**

Conducted
in English

Enquiry
3943 4363

Registration
goo.gl/kUMgC8

