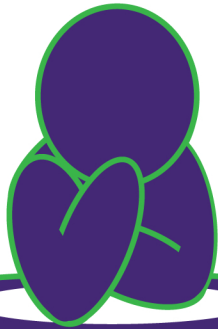


SUNY POTSDAM

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL STUDIES



SEMINAR SERIES

DISCIPLINED INQUIRY IN EDUCATION

Wednesday, October 12th, 2016, Noon

Literacy Center Balcony

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and Special Education

Isn't This a Lot of Fluff?

Abstract: This presentation will discuss the changes in the perception of creativity among teachers and educators that have occurred since the implementation of the Common Core Standards in New York State. More and more teachers, who initially voiced strong support for an instructional environment that affords creativity, are suddenly rejecting this supportive approach and now view creativity as so much fluff. This change of perception was first noted when seeking funding for a presentation and workshop to be presented at the college. When funding was sought from a teacher-sponsored organization for this project, some of the reviewers, who were public school teachers, questioned the value of the project due to its focus on not just the arts in the instruction, but actual “hands on” field experiences outside of the traditional classroom setting. One of the reviewers commented that, this seems pretty fluffy when teachers are struggling with the new common core standards. Another reviewer simply wanted to know if it was in-line with the common core standards. Because Early Childhood has always supported an arts-based and creative approach to the education of young children, the focus of this presentation will be on early childhood instructional approaches, assessment and the importance of creativity in early childhood teacher preparation programs at the college and university level of instruction.