



RESEARCH SEMINAR SERIES – 2013/2014
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

**Professor Keith Topping
(University of Dundee)**

Keith Topping is Professor of Educational and Social Research in the School of Education at the University of Dundee. His main research interest is peer learning, in many contexts and subject areas. Other interests include parents as educators, problematic behaviour & social competence, and computer assisted learning & assessment. He has over 350 publications, including 21 books and 172 peer reviewed journal papers. He has consulted with national government and large organisations in several countries and his work has been translated into 12 languages. Further details are at <http://www.dundee.ac.uk/eswce/people/kitopping.htm>

**Seminar Title: Peer Tutoring in Reading and Mathematics in Primary School:
Randomised Controlled Trials and Scaling Up**

Abstract

Keith will report on the Fife Peer Learning Project – a randomised controlled trial in which 128 primary schools participated. Schools were allocated a condition: cross-age vs. same-age tutoring; light vs intensive tutoring; reading vs. maths vs. reading and maths. The project lasted two years with the same children in Year 2 but generally with different teachers, so the pupils were key to carrying tutoring forward. Subsequently the University of Durham established a Maths tutoring project which intended to scale up the project (to which Keith is a consultant). Four local authorities are implementing tutoring (Medway, Worcestershire, Leeds and Durham), again over two years. Local co-ordinators are responsible for training and monitoring teachers, while the university has trained the co-ordinators. Results will be available soon! Meanwhile there is a peer tutoring page on TES Pro which has registered over 13,000 hits from teachers.