



## Tribute to Michael Connelly

I can think of no one who deserves an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Windsor more than Dr. F. Michael Connelly, Professor Emeritus, University of Toronto. His contributions to the Canada-China Reciprocal Learning Project have been groundbreaking. With Dr. Shijing Xu of the University of Windsor, a new conceptualization of comparative education has been added to the education vernacular. The concept of reciprocal learning will stand forever as a counter story to the currently existing mega-approaches to international comparative education. Reciprocal learning arising from international partnerships is a rich and profound discovery as no one has previously investigated it face-to-face. What is particularly special is that Michael Connelly's Honorary Doctorate from the University of Windsor will stand alongside the Honorary Doctorate that was conferred on him from the Education University of Hong Kong in 2021.

Mirroring the partnership between Canada and China, Connelly's honorary doctorates bookend the West-East theme of the reciprocal learning grant. Clearly, Michael Connelly has dedicated his life to studying curriculum (e.g., teachers-as-curriculum-makers), teaching (e.g., images of teaching, teachers' professional knowledge landscapes) and international education (e.g., reciprocal learning). All of this has been achieved through narrative inquiry, the research method his students and he refined over time. This work culminated in four important works: Connelly & Clandinin, 1990; Clandinin & Connelly, 2000; Xu & Connelly, 2010; and Xu, Connelly & Chi, 2024. Most significantly, Connelly has carried forward the work of Joseph J. Schwab, his doctoral advisor at the University of Chicago. This narrative thread travels throughout his scholarship and is most evident in the Oxford Encyclopedia chapter, Reciprocal learning as a comparative education model and as an exemplar of Schwab's "*The Practical*" in curriculum inquiry (Connelly & Xu, 2020)."

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