Resilient Teachers, Resilient Schools: Building and sustaining quality in testing times

Please join the Murdoch School of Education for a seminar presented by Dr Qing Gu, professor of education at the University of Nottingham, influential author and researcher, and current co-director of an Education Department of West Australia funded project on early career teachers’ resilience and effectiveness.

Understanding why and how many teachers are able to sustain their capacity to be resilient and continue to work for improvement is an important quality retention issue. Whilst much has been written over the years about teacher stress and burnout, there is relatively less research which reports on the conditions which are essential for teachers to sustain their commitment and effectiveness over their professional lives. Resilience in teachers is more than the ability to ‘bounce back’ in extreme adverse circumstances. Rather, what counts is ‘everyday resilience’ which enables them to respond positively to the unavoidable uncertainties inherent in their everyday professional lives and through this, sustain their commitment, wellbeing and effectiveness. Using rich illustrations from real teachers in primary and secondary schools, Professor Gu will analyse what resilience is, why it matters, and how it may be built and nurtured in different organisational settings.

About the Presenter - Professor Qing Gu
Dr Qing Gu is Professor of Education at the University of Nottingham, Chair of the British Association of Comparative and International Education and currently leading three UK Education Endowment Foundation funded projects on research use in schools in England. Professor Gu has directed a range of international and national research projects, including UK government funded projects on the Evaluation of Teaching Schools, and Why Teachers Leave and Return. She is author of Teacher Development: Knowledge and Context (2007), and co-author of Teachers Matter (2007), The New Lives of Teachers (2010), Successful School Leadership: Linking with Learning and Achievement (2011), and Resilient Teachers, Resilient Schools (2014). She is also editor of The Work and Lives of Teachers in China (2014), and co-editor of The Routledge International Handbook of Education and Development (2015) and Handbook of Education in China (2017).