

Fulbright Regional Research Fellows



● Regional Research



Amita Gupta

- ▶ Specialization:
Education
- ▶ Home Institution in US:
**The City College of New York
New York, New York**
- ▶ Host Institution in India:
**National Council for Educational
Research and Training
New Delhi**
- ▶ Start Date/Month in India:
September 2009
- ▶ Duration of grant:
2 months

Brief Bio:

Dr. Amita Gupta, Associate Professor of Education at The City College of New York, is also on the doctoral faculty of Urban Education at the CUNY Graduate Center; has served as Program Director of the Graduate Programs in ECE, and as vice president of the New York State Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators. She earned her Master's and Doctoral degrees in Education from Columbia University. Her doctoral research received the NAECTE/Merrill-Prentice Hall Award for Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation. Dr. Gupta has extensive cross-cultural experience with school administration, teacher education, and classroom teaching in urban schools in both India and the US. Dr. Gupta's scholarship is characterized by the closely-linked themes of multicultural perspectives on teaching, learning, and development; socio-cultural-historical constructivism; comparative education; postcolonial theory; and the influence of prior beliefs and funds of knowledge on teaching practices. The integration of these themes also appears in her teaching of graduate level courses on curriculum design and child development. Her selected publications include: *Going to School in South Asia* (Greenwood Press. 2007); *Early Childhood Education, Postcolonial Theory and Teaching Practices in India: Balancing Vygotsky and the Veda*. (Palgrave. 2006); and 'Tracing Global-local Transitions within Early Childhood Curriculum and Practice in India' in *Research in Comparative and International Education*. (3(3), pp. 266-279. 2008).

Dr. Amita Gupta wants to examine the impact of globalization on urban primary teacher education policy and practice within the different cultural contexts and world views of South Asia. More specifically, the study aims to examine the influences of social, cultural, historical, ecological, religious, political and economic forces on current issues of teacher professionalization and teacher professionalism, and how teachers are being prepared to meet the challenges of a 21st century global world. This comparison of teacher education policies in different countries will build on Dr. Gupta's prior research and contribute to a more diverse research base that will work toward the internationalization of teacher education.



● Regional Research



David Ludden

- ▶ Specialization:
History
- ▶ Home Institution in US:
**New York University
New York, New York**
- ▶ Host Institution in India:
**University of Calcutta
Kolkata, West Bengal**
- ▶ Start Date/Month in India:
November 2009
- ▶ Duration of grant:
3 months

Brief Bio:

Professor David Ludden received his Ph.D. in History in 1978 and taught at the University of Pennsylvania for 27 years before moving to New York University as Professor of Political Economy and Globalization, in the History Department, in 2007. His work concerns the history of economic development in agrarian South Asia. He has published three monographs: a detailed long-term history of one district in Tamil Nadu, a comparative history of agrarian regions in South Asia, and a survey of South Asian history. His edited volumes concern Hindutva, Capitalism, Subaltern Studies, and Economic History. He now concentrates on Bangladesh and surrounding areas in India, Burma, Southeast Asia, and China, where he is particularly concerned with transformations of spatial environments and their implications for social inequity. His detailed archival work focuses on the Sylhet District of Bangladesh.

Dr. Ludden's Fulbright project in Bangladesh and India concerns the history of economic disparities among groups and localities in the Sylhet District in Bangladesh and the implications of these disparities for health and health care. In this project, economic history informs the study of contemporary economic development and public health programs.