

**When:**

**Wednesday  
9 July 2008**

**Venue:**

**Richard Searby Room  
(hd2.006)  
Burwood Campus**

**Time:**

**3-5pm**

Please RSVP to the EFI  
coordinator by Monday 7 July

**Educational Futures and  
Innovation RPA  
School of Education  
Deakin University Burwood,  
Melbourne 3215**

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# Seminar Series 2008

Deakin University's School of Education Research Priority Area -  
*Educational Futures and Innovation* invites you to attend the  
following seminar:

## Improving Teacher Quality: A Comparison of Teacher Policies in the US, Australia and Japan

**Motoko Akiba, Ph.D.**

*Assistant Professor, Educational leadership and policy analysis  
University of Missouri, Columbia*

### Abstract

This study used a mixed-methods approach to examine teacher quality in the U.S., Australia, and Japan using the 2003 teacher survey data from the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) and case studies of teacher policies in these three countries. Specifically, the difference in teacher quality between high-socioeconomic status (SES) and low-SES schools is highlighted and teacher distribution policies are compared.

### Biography

Dr. Motoko Akiba conducts research on school safety, multicultural education, and comparative and international education. Applying quantitative policy methods, her research program aims to produce policy-relevant knowledge useful for improving students' learning and health.

After receiving a B.A. in Education from the University of Tsukuba in Japan, Dr. Akiba pursued her Ph.D. in Educational Policy and Comparative and International Education at Pennsylvania State University. Before joining MU, she was a researcher at Mills College and Mid-continent Research for Education and Learning (McREL).

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