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TITLE: DISCOURSES AND CONTEXTS OF EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP: DISPOSITIFS, CONFIGURATIONS AND POWERS

PRESENTER: Prof. Roberto Serpieri

DATE: Tuesday 13th October 2015

TIME: 5.30pm – 7.00pm

VENUE: Educational Assessment Unit (EAU), Joseph Abela Scolaro Street, Hamrun.
[The EAU is situated behind the National Curriculum Centre (NCC), Hamrun]

SESSION BRIEF:

The seminar aims to discuss the wide and somewhat messy scenario of educational leadership theories. The analysis of leadership theories is carried on using two interpretative dimensions: discourses as regimes of truth and ontological/epistemological presuppositions. This first dimension refers to the classical distinction between welfarism (bureau-professionalism), neo-liberalism (managerialism) and democratic (critical) discourses. The second dimension recalls Seddon's (1994) distinction between categorical and relational education contexts and, drawing on Gronn and Ribbins (1996) and Gunter and Ribbins (2003) works, exploits it in the light of a focus on both human and practice ontologies. An interactive approach will be adopted so as to engage the participants to reflect on their own context.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

Roberto Serpieri is Professor of Sociology of Organization and Education Policy at the Department of Social Sciences, University 'Federico II' Naples. He is advisory board member of various journals.

Since 2000 he has conducted research on governance, leadership and evaluation, social inclusion and intercultural integration, and theoretical reflection which have focused more on the role of school leaders in the transformation process of educational systems, on the problem of 'leadership' identity, on the re-discovery of professionalism, on the managerialistic pressures, and to the coming back to bureaucracy.