

ACS Athens Colloquium: “Sustaining Excellence”  
April 21-22, 2016

**April 21, 2016**

**2:00 – 2:30 WELCOME: Theater**

Capt. Rob Palm (Military Attache, US Embassy)  
Dr. Jane Pruitt (Accreditation Officer, Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools, Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools)  
Dr. Panos Kanellis (President, American Farm School of Thessaloniki and Perrotis College)  
Ms. Mercedes Z. Sheppard (Head of School, Morgan Park Academy, Chicago, IL)  
Dr. Stefanos Gialamas\* (President, ACS Athens)

**2:30 – 2:50 Presentation of the Research Problem/Process: Theater**

MaryAnn Augoustatos\*, Steve Medeiros\*, Peggy Pelonis\* (Re-Accreditation Internal Coordinators)

**2:50 Round 1 “Morfofis Talks” Introduction**

Dr. Dimitrios Sampson (Research Professor of Learning Technologies, Curtin University, Australia; Parent, Planning Team member)

**2:55 – 3:50 Morfofis Talks (Round 1): Theater**

*(Four 12-minute talks, addressing areas of research focus)*

***Talk #1 Guiding Theory: Constructivist/ Inquiry-Based Teaching and Learning***

*Exemplar: Elementary School Design Time Initiative*  
*Presenters: Alexandros Hoc and Christina Birbil*  
*Coach: Ginger Carlson*

***Talk #2 Instructional Methodology: i<sup>2</sup>Flex***

*Exemplars: i<sup>2</sup>Flex in Humanities and Fitness Training*  
*Presenters: Kathy Jasonides\* and Angelos Dimitropoulos\**  
*Coach: Dr. Maria Avgerinou\**

***Talk #3 Teaching Mathematics Conceptually***

*Exemplars: JK-2 Mathematical Competency and Out of the Box Problem Solving*  
*Presenters: Dr. Andreas Tsokos and Sophia Moros*  
*Coach: MaryAnn Augoustatos*

***Talk #4 Teaching Writing to Think and Learn***

*Exemplar: A Digital Creative Writing Project*  
*Presenters: Amalia Zavacopoulou\* and Stavi Dimas*  
*Coach: Steve Medeiros*

**3:50 – 4:05 Break**

**4:05 Round 2 “Morfofis Talks” Introduction**

Dr. Cherif About\* (Emeritus Dean, DeVry University, USA)

**4:10 – 5:10 Morfosis Talks (Round 2): Theater**

**Talk #5 Best Practices in ESL/EFL**

Exemplar: “Loving the Language: Creating an ESL/EFL Program to Meet Our Students’ Needs”

Presenters: Venie Gaki and Angela Zamanis

Coach: Steve Medeiros

**Talk #6 Providing Learning Support through Collaborative Professional Partnerships**

Exemplar: Designing a Holistic and Collaborative Diagnostic Testing Center

Presenters: Anna Makris\* and Cynthia Oujjian

Coach: Chris Perakis

**Talk #7 Helping Students to Find the “Best Fit”**

Exemplar: The ACS Academy College Advisory Inquiry Process

Presenters: Mandy Dragatakis\* and Stelios Kalogridakis

Coach: Peggy Pelonis

**Talk #8 Collaborative Inquiry and Professional Development**

Exemplar: Establishing Professional Collaborative Learning Communities as One Element of a Teacher-Centered Professional Development Program

Presenters: Dave Nelson\* and Penny Kynigou\*

Coach: Steve Medeiros

**5:10 Introduction to Breakout Sessions**

Dr. Margaret Grogan (Dean, College of Educational Studies, Chapman University, USA)

**5:10 – 5:15 Move to Breakout Sessions (Theater Lobby/Atrium/Library)**

**5:15 – 5:50 Breakout Sessions** (Expanding on Innovation Talks/Discussion – Eight concurrent sessions: audience members attend the session of greatest interest to them).

**Breakout #1: Constructivist Inquiry-Based Teaching and Learning (Room: Academy 201)**

Leaders: Alexandros Hoc and Christina Birbil present artifacts of student learning

Other voices:

Keren O’Connor and Lyndi Henderson: Choice within the content areas (5-7 minutes)

Sana Kassem: Creating an ES inquiry-based science learning center (5-7 minutes)

Questions/Discussion – moderated by Alexandros Hoc (15 minutes)

**Breakout #2: i<sup>2</sup>Flex (Library 1<sup>st</sup> floor)**

Leaders: Kathy Jasonides and Angelos Dimitropoulos present artifacts of student learning.

Other Voices:

Charles Berahas: Teaching computer science in a blended learning environment (7-10 minutes)

Heike Arnold\*: i<sup>2</sup>Flex approach to teaching foreign language learners (7-10 minutes)

Questions/Discussion (15 minutes) – moderated by Julia Tokatlidou

**Breakout #3: Teaching Mathematics Conceptually (MS Computer Lab)**

Leaders: Dr. Andreas Tsokos and Sophia Moros presenting artifacts of student learning

Other voices:

Dr. Angeliki Stamati: Peer teaching and assessing mathematics (7-10 minutes)

Dora Andrikopoulos\*: Student-designed culminating assessment projects in Mathematics (7-10 minutes)

Questions/Discussion (15 minutes) – moderated by Sophia Moros

**Breakout #4: Teaching Writing to Think and Learn (Writing Studio)**

Leaders: Amalia Zavacopoulou\* and Stavi Dimas presenting artifacts of student Learning

Other voices: Maria Falidas: Writing in IB Mathematics (7-10 minutes)

Sophia Thanopoulou: Writing as discovery in a theater classroom (7-10 minutes)

Questions/Discussion (15 minutes) – moderated by Amalia Zavacopoulou

**Breakout #5 Best Practices in ESL/EFL (5<sup>th</sup> grade RED)**

Leaders: Venie Gaki and Angela Zamanis presenting artifacts of student learning

Other voices: Katerina Gleisberg: Making content material accessible to ESL/EFL students (7-10 minutes)

Hercules Lianos: Real-life applications in Academy (HS) ESL – Editorial tables (7-10 minutes)

Questions/Discussion (15 minutes) – moderated by Venie Gaki

**Breakout #6 Providing Learning Support through Collaborative Partnerships**

Leaders: Anna Makris and Cynthis Oujian presenting artifacts of practice (Room: 5<sup>th</sup> grade GREEN)

Other voices: Sara Kaldelli and Lia Sinouris: Creating a successful classroom teacher/specialist co-teaching partnership to help all students learn (7-10 minutes)

Dimitris Chourmouzis, Alexandra Katsiki, Jasmina Mohamedali: Creating and implementing a shadow teacher partnership program (7-10 minutes)

Questions/Discussion (15 minutes) – moderated by Dr. Yulla Lamprou

***Breakout #7 Helping Students to Find the “Best Fit” (Room: 5<sup>th</sup> grade BLUE)***

*Leaders: Mandy Dragatakis and Stelios Kalogridakis presenting artifacts of practice and of student learning*

*Other voices: Stelios Kalogridakis: “Best Fit” for Student Athletes (7-10 minutes)  
Katerina Pisanias: A Teacher’s Discoveries about “Best Fit” (7-10 minutes)*

*Questions/Discussion (15 minutes) – moderated by Mandy Dragatakis*

***Breakout #8 Collaborative Inquiry and Professional Development (Academy 203/4)***

*Leaders: Dave Nelson and Penny Kynigou presenting artifacts of practice*

*Other voices: A discussion among CLC leaders – Amberdawn Moore, Christina Rocha, Hrisi Sandravellis, Irimi Rovoli, Dr. Raphael Raphael,\* Marla Coklas, and Justin Cramer (15 minutes)*

*Questions/Discussion (15 minutes) – moderated by Penny Kynigou*

**5:50 – 6:00 Break**

**6:00 Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Thanassis Sitinas, Middle School Student**

**6:05 – 6:35 Keynote Address: Dr. Ioannis Maioulis, President, Museum of Science, Boston)**

**6:35 – 7:00 Wine and Cheese Reception (Theater Lobby/Atrium)**

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**April 22, 2016**

**9:30 – 9:40 Welcome – Theater**

MaryAnn Augoustatos/Peggy Pelonis/Steve Medeiros (Re-Accreditation Coordinators)  
Dr. David Gleason (Clinical Psychologist, Member ACS Athens Advisory Council)

**9:40 – 10:00 Learning at ACS Athens – Student and Parent Perspectives**

*A reflective conversation (Dr. Stefanos Gialamas, President ACS Athens; Billy Sotiropoulos, Tommy Lynch, Maria Christodoulou and Kewei Li (Students); and Michelle Ballard...to be confirmed (Parents)*

**10:00 – 10:05 Proceed to Conference Sessions**

**10:05 – 10:50 Conference Session #1 (5 Concurrent Sessions)**

**1. Marketplace of Ideas A (Writing Studio)**

Table 1: Yi-Nai Wang: Chinese MS and ESL/EFL Pair-Up Project

Table 2: Dr. Yulla Lamprou: School Partnerships (OLP support)

Table 3: Fay Safaris: Conceptual Mathematics the ES classroom

Table 4: Dr. Lykourgos Hristakos: *i*<sup>2</sup>Flex in Physics

Moderator: Irini Antoniadou

**2. Marketplace of Ideas B ( Library 1<sup>st</sup> floor)**

Table 1: Sevasti Koniou: Differentiation in a Diverse Classroom

Table 2: Vasilis Mikros: Cooperative Games: How Physical Activity Can help ESL/EFL Students Enhance Social Skills

Table 3: Mackenzie Merrill: A Snapshot of Constructivism in Middle School Art Class

Table 4: Emilia Drogaris: Reflection on the Action Research/Reflection Process – How the Process Has Shaped My Practice

Table 5: Irini Rovoli and Isidora Minoudi: Motivating Strategies in the ES Greek class  
Moderator: Danai Papaioannou

**3. Marketplace of Ideas C (MS Room 10)**

Table 1: Julia Stefanidou: Romeo and Juliet: How Drama Motivates EFL Students

Table 2: Peggy Apostolou: Music and Multiple Intelligence Learning (Strategies for Differentiating Instruction)

Table 3: Carly Killam: Teaching Grammar Within the Writing Process

Table 4: Sophia Souselos: Structured Collaborative Observation/Writing Activity to Develop Skills of Art Analysis

Table 5: Natasha Stratoglou: *i*<sup>2</sup>Flex in the multi-level foreign language classroom  
Moderator: Paul Davis

#### **4. Presentation Session A: Snapshots of i<sup>2</sup>Flex (MS Computer Lab)**

1. Labrini Rontogiannis\*: *Flipping and Flexing in Science (12 minutes)*
  2. Dr. Tonia Firigou\*: *Transforming Teaching and Learning in the Foreign Language Classroom (12 minutes)*
  3. Jenny Grigoropoulos: *i<sup>2</sup>Flex in the EFL Classroom (12 minutes)*
- Moderator: Jan Karvouniaris\*

#### **5. Presentation Session B: Snapshots of Conceptual Mathematics (Academy Room 201)**

1. Ioanna Lamprou, Korinna Kokkali and Eleftheria Ferentinos: *Conceptual Strategies in the ES Math Classroom (a short demo) (15 minutes)*
  2. Nick Parakatis: *SAT Mathematics; Collaboration and Problem-Solving Strategies (12 minutes)*
  3. Dr. Nicholas Romanos, Annie Fesl and Dr. Evelin Toubakari: *Mathematics and Chemistry -- an Interdisciplinary, Constructivist Approach (12-15 minutes)*
- Moderator: Dora Andrikopoulos

#### **10:50 – 11:00 Break**

#### **11:00 – 11:45 Conference Session #2 Reflective Learning/Reflective Teaching: Two Reflective Conversations (Theater)**

Reflective Dialogue 1: The Middle School Migrant/Refugee Project: Inquiry, Research, Writing, Collaborative, Best-fit Project – Building Understanding, Empathy and Action  
Christina Bakoyannis and Hrisi Sandravellis reflect on the project with several Middle School Students (20 minutes)  
Coaches: Steve Medeiros and Peggy Pelonis

Reflective Dialogue 2: Teacher as Scholar: How Engaging in the Process of Research and Reflection Shapes Practice (20 minutes)  
Participants: Dr. Allesandra Sax-Lane\* (discussion Leader), Jenny Grigoropoulos\*, Dr. Elina Prodromidi\*, Sophia Thanopoulou, Georgia Exintavelonis and Karla Stauffer  
Coach: Dr. Maria Avgerinou

#### **11:45 – 12:45**

##### **1. Poster Session (Exhibitions of Research): Theater Lobby**

Angie Spiliot: *"Happy Hats" – getting the writing process going*  
Angela Chamosfakidis – *Mapping out the IB Psychology Internal Assessment*  
Amberdawn Moore – *Backward mapping*  
Georgia Mentes – *Applying occupational therapy strategies in the JK classroom*  
Iliana Eleftheriou, Eirini Aliferi, Alexandra Katsiki – *Shadow teacher partnerships*  
Stavroula Salouros – *Writing to promote awareness of health issues*  
Dora Pantelli and Dimitri Pelidis – *10<sup>th</sup> grade Personal Project – research and inquiry*  
Sonia Kormaris – *Writing to Think and Learn in Greek Language and Literature class*  
Jan Karvouniaris and Maria Avgerinou – *The ACS Athens 6-12 Research Framework: Developing Habits of the Mind for Life*

Leigh Anderson – Developing library-based research skills  
 Valia Efstathiou – Mentoring students outside the classroom: visual communication and technology projects  
 Christina Marinou and Zoe Karatza – Co-teaching: how to change teaching and learning in classes with OLP students  
 Justin Cramer – CLC groups in support of action research  
 Alexia Grigoropoulou and Alexandros Hoc – “Approaches to Learning” in the IB Diploma Program  
 Dr. Allesandra Sax-Lane – Meta-research on the action research process  
 Heike Arnold – i<sup>2</sup>Flex in foreign language  
 Dennisse Legoretta – Using multi-media to demonstrate communication skills in Spanish class

## 2. Demonstrations

**Dogs in Learning: Calculating distance** – Theo Koutsopoulos\* and Xenia Vafopoulou and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students ( **Atrium/Lobby area** )

**Interactive Gallery of Student Programming**– Dr. Raphael Raphael and MS Students ( **MS Computer Lab** )

**Inquiry-based Student Investigations in Science (First demo session)**  
 Sana Kassem and Dr. Maria Konstandoulaki and ES Students ( **Elementary School Science Lab** )

**Cafeteria will be open for lunch during this period.**

### 12:45 – 1:30 Demonstrations of Student Learning

1. **Student workshops in the Math Studio:** Matina Katsiyanni\* and Academy students
2. **Student workshops in the Writing Studio:** Bobby Zervas and Academy students
3. **Inquiry-based student investigation in the ES Science Lab:** Sana Kassem and Dr. Maria Konstandoulaki and 16 ES students
- 4.: **Exploring Colonial America through research-based creative writing:** a 5<sup>th</sup> grade project – Marla Coklas, Evi Evloyias, Ria Maratou and Helen Sarantes\* and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students (Room: 5<sup>th</sup> grade BLUE)
5. **Extending the Writing Process: The 3<sup>rd</sup> grade Wax Museum Project:** Alexandros Hoc, Stavi Dimas, Ashley Martinez and a group of 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students (ES Cafeteria)
6. **A Socratic Seminar:** Dave Nelson, Evelyn Pittas and 10<sup>th</sup> grade Combo students (Library, second level)
7. **Model United Nations:** An 8<sup>th</sup> grade research/action project – Derrick Ocampo, Patrick Dougherty, Rhodell Fields, Academy Student Leaders, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. (MS Room 10)
8. **Captain Chip – A Canine Literacy Partner:** Demonstration of a novel early ES literacy project – Christina Birbil and ES students (First Grade Classroom)

**1:35 – 2:00 MSA reflection on the Colloquium – Dr. Jane Pruitt (Theater)**

**2:00 – 2:05 Closing remarks: Mr. Suheil Sabbagh, Chairman, ACS Athens Board of Trustees**

**2:05 Colloquium adjourns**

**2:05 – 2:30 Refreshments in Theater Lobby**

*\* An asterisk next to an individual's name denotes that he/she is a co-author of the book Revolutionizing K-12 blended learning through the *i*<sup>2</sup>Flex classroom model*