Currently there is unprecedented attention being directed at the ‘quality’ of school teachers in education systems around the world and the part they might play in developing globally competitive knowledge-based economies. Yet teachers’ work has historically been organised at the national and sub-national scales. In this seminar Professor Robertson examines the ways in which the national and sub-national are being enrolled as important sites for globalisation through an exploration of two political projects, the OECD’s Teaching and Learning International Survey (TALIS) and the World Bank’s SABER-Teacher. Drawing on Bernstein’s (1990, 2000) concepts of ‘field of symbolic control’, ‘classification’ and ‘framing’, as conceptual resources for identifying shifts in the nature of power and control, she charts the nature and extent of the denationalisation of teachers’ work, the consequences for teachers as professionals, and how these processes might be contested, showing the ways in which the invocation of a global imaginary of shared risk and future, the emergence of trans boundary relations, the relationally inter-connected nature of globalising teacher learning, and new forms of private authority, are contributing to the denationalisation of education and a transformation in the field of symbolic control over teacher policies and practices.

OISE Ontario Institute for Studies in Education

The Comparative, International & Development Education Centre (CIDE) is pleased to present

Guest speaker

Professor Susan L. Robertson

University of Bristol

Susan Robertson is Professor of Sociology of Education in the Graduate School of Education at the University of Bristol. She is founding Director of the Centre for Globalisation, Education and Societies, and founding co-editor of the journal, Globalisation, Societies and Education. Susan has a long standing interest in respatialising education governance. She has a recent volume with Karen Mundy, entitled Public Private Partnerships in Education.

Friday, March 8, 2013 • 11:30 a.m.
Room 12-199 • 12th Floor • 252 Bloor Street West, Toronto

Teachers’ Work, Denationalisation, and Transformations in the Field of Symbolic Control: A Comparative Account

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This event will be live webcast: connect.oise.utoronto.ca/cidec
#globalizationandteacherswork

Light lunch and reception following.
RSVP: cidec.oise@utoronto.ca