

Phil Roberts – General Executive Member, ACSA



I am an Assistant Professor (aka Senior Lecturer) in Curriculum Inquiry and Rural Education at the University of Canberra. My major ongoing research focuses on place, the sustainability of rural communities, and the interests of the least powerful in our society. My work is situated within rural sociology, the sociology of knowledge, educational sociology and social justice and is informed by the spatial turn in social theory and sustainability. I have an ongoing concern about quality and equity in education and the representation of the rural in contemporary society.

I have a significant research track record that extends to my pre-university career, completing major national research projects in the staffing of rural and remote schools and managing large-scale school based research projects. I was the 2015 recipient of the bi-annual Australian Curriculum Studies Association-Pearson Colin Marsh award for the best paper in the preceding two years of the journal *Curriculum Perspectives*. I am a member of the organising committee for the International Association for the Advancement of Curriculum Studies (IAACS) triennial conference to be held in Melbourne in 2018. I received my PhD from Charles Sturt University, Australia. My Dissertation received the annual 'best dissertation award' from the American Educational Research Association Rural Special Interest Group.

Before joining the University of Canberra, in 2009, I was a classroom teacher and Head Teacher for 12 years in rural NSW Public High schools. I am the Chief Investigator for the project 'Enhancing aspirations for STEM careers in rural, regional and remote communities'. Prior to this project I was chief investigator for the Towards Place Based Education in the Murray-Darling Basin project.. In 2013 he was a recipient of the Vice Chancellors award for Teaching Excellence. I am a Chief Editor for the Australian and International Journal of Rural Education and national convener of the Rural Education Special Interest Group for the Australian Association for Research in Education.