



The Professional Development in Education Best Paper Award

To be presented at the University of Florida International Teacher Leadership Conference 2017

Professional Development in Education is a fully refereed international journal that publishes original contributions on the subject of continuing professional learning and development (PLD) in its widest sense, including: initial preparation as it affects induction; mentoring and coaching; professional learning; management and leadership of PLD; the analysis of local, regional and national policies relating to PLD; and the work of Higher Education and other agencies in supporting and promoting PLD. Contributions comprise scholarly discussion of related concepts and theories, emerging issues, empirical research, and contribution to the debate on continuing professional learning and development. Although the main focus of articles in the journal is likely to be teacher education, we welcome contributions which discuss the policy and practice of PLD in other professions where the focus of the article is professional learning and development.

THE AWARDS

The Professional Development in Education Best Paper Awards will be given to one paper in each of the following categories:

- 1. Best Practitioner/Student Paper**
- 2. Best Academic Paper**

These awards acknowledge and celebrate well-written papers that make a significant contribution to their field. The 2017 awards will be presented to the author(s) at the University of Florida International Teacher Leadership Conference. For consideration for the award, the paper must have a strong focus on issues associated with professional learning and/or development in the field of Teacher Leadership.

THE PRIZE:

The prize for each award shall be \$100 plus one year's membership of the International Professional Development Association. Additionally, the winning author(s) will be invited to submit their paper to the journal for review and consideration for publication.

ENTRY CONDITIONS:

The Paper:

- Must have been accepted for inclusion in the UF International Teacher Leadership conference 2017 program.
- Must be submitted by the deadline date of February 1st, 2017.

- Must not have been published previously or have been accepted or be under consideration for publication elsewhere.
- Must not exceed the normal word length for articles in **Professional Development in Education** (i.e. should not exceed 7,500 words).

THE AUTHORS:

- Must present an oral version of the paper at the International Teacher Leadership Conference 2017.
- Agree to consideration of the paper for publication in Professional Development in Education if awarded the prize (subject to the journal's and publisher's standard conditions, including the normal review process)

JUDGING:

The judges will be the Managing Editors of Professional Development in Education.

- Judging will be based on the latest version of the complete paper submitted by 1700 EST **February 1st, 2017**.
- The prize-winner will be announced at the International Teacher Leadership 2017 Conference.
- The judges reserve the right not to present the award and will not enter into correspondence about their decisions.

CRITERIA:

The papers shall be evaluated using the following criteria:

1. Academic and Professional Merit

- (a) Creativity and originality, as reflected in new data, interpretations, facts, innovations, methods, applications, etc.

2. Contribution

- (a) Significance of the topic or problem investigated (urgency, impact, etc.);
- (b) Relevance of the topic or problem;
- (c) Usefulness of the paper to practising professionals (applicability, timeliness, scope, problem-solving value, etc.)

3. Presentation Quality

- (a) Readability, effective organization and presentation of concepts, facts, arguments. (structure, logic, persuasiveness, etc.);
- (b) Use of clear, concise, comprehensible and jargon-free language (ease and pleasure of reading); and
- (c) Adherence to "Instructions for authors" found in the PDiE web site (see link below)

<http://www.tandfonline.com/action/authorSubmission?journalCode=rjie20&page=instructions#.VYvriKZfbno>