

Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Abraham S Fischler College of Education & School of Criminal Justice
Nova Southeastern University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Education, Cornell University

Specialization: Research Methods and Program Evaluation

Dissertation: *Examining claims for performance assessments using a high school science context*

M.A. in Science Education, University of London (Distinction)

Specialization: Science Education

Thesis: *The effects of cognitive structure and cognitive content on formal science learning at the secondary level*

B. Sc. (Hons) with Education, University Sains Malaysia

Specialization: Chemistry and Biology

WORK EXPERIENCE

Apr 2006 – current: Abraham S Fischler College of Education, Nova Southeastern University, Florida, USA

Teaching in both online and blended formats at the graduate level. Courses include research methods, program evaluation, STEM education, and assessment. Advising doctoral dissertation students.

Served as the Regional Liaison for Asia (Apr 2006 – Dec 2016)

Started the blended Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) program in Asia in 2007 with an instructional site in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia). Then expanded to three other instructional sites in Seoul (S. Korea), Shanghai (China), and Singapore.

Jan 2001 – Mar 2006: Head, Department of American Degree Programs
HELP University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

May 1999 – Dec 2000: Program Coordinator, Western Australian Matriculation Program
Methodist College Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Mar 1988 – Apr 1999: Educational Planning and Research Division, Ministry of Education Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

PUBLICATIONS

- Ross D.B., Peyton G.L., Nethi V., Sasso M.T. (2021). The Need to Be a Leader of Research in the United States: Take the Risk and Move Beyond Your Opponents. In: Mulligan D.L., Danaher P.A. (eds) *Researchers at Risk*. Palgrave Studies in Education Research Methods. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-53857-6_10
- Simonson, M., & Nethi, V. (2020). Essays from the field: Instructional technology in a time of crisis. *A Special Issue of the Quarterly Review of Distance Education* 21 (3).
- De, S. & Nethi, V. (2020). Impact of Science Mobile Applications on Interest and Learning among Undergraduate Science Students. *Quarterly Review of Distance Education* 21(4), 37-49. Retrieved from <https://ezproxylocal.library.nova.edu/login?url=https://www-proquest-com.ezproxylocal.library.nova.edu/scholarly-journals/impact-science-mobile-applications-on-interest/docview/2546657135/se-2?accountid=6579>
- Orellana, A., & Nethi, V. (2019). Research in distance education: Trends in the *Quarterly Review of Distance Education* from 2002 to 2017. *Quarterly Review of Distance Education* 20(1), 1-14. <https://eric.ed.gov/?id=EJ1224707>
- Nethi, V., & De, S. (2019). The potential of socio-biologically relevant mobile applications to attract girls to STEM. *FDLA Journal* 4(4), <https://nsuworks.nova.edu/fdla-journal/vol4/iss1/4>
- Kesper-Biermann, S., Leung, M.W.H., Nethi, V., & Somalingam, T. (2018). Transnational Education: Teaching and learning across borders. An Introduction. *Transnational Social Review – A Social Work Journal* 8(2), 116-123. [doi/abs/10.1080/21931674.2018.1463058](https://doi.org/10.1080/21931674.2018.1463058)
- Nethi, V., & Murray, A. (2015). Proactive professional development: A connected educator. In P. Clements, A. Krause, and H. Brown (Eds), *JALT2014 Conference Proceedings*. Tokyo: JALT.
- Nethi, V. (2014). Am I agile? Reflections on the U21/KWBN Global Citizenship Employability Roundtable. <http://blogs.nottingham.ac.uk/malaysiaknowledgetransfer/2014/03/31/am-i-agile-reflections-on-the-u21kwbn-global-citizenship-employability-roundtable/>
- Nethi, V., & Murray, A. (2014). Potential for MOOCs in foreign language teaching. In N. Sonda and A. Krause (Eds). *JALT2013 Conference Proceedings*. Tokyo: JALT.
- Nethi, V. (2000). The Malaysian Smart School. *Suara Sekolah Methodist*, 5.
- Conceptual Blueprint on Smart Schools in Malaysia*. (1999). Kuala Lumpur: Ministry of Education Malaysia, Smart Schools Flagship Application Task Force.
- The Implementation Plan: Smart Schools in Malaysia*. (1999). Kuala Lumpur: Ministry of Education Malaysia, Smart Schools Flagship Application Task Force.

Concept Requests for Proposals: Smart Schools in Malaysia. (1999) Kuala Lumpur: Ministry of Education Malaysia, Smart Schools Flagship Application Task Force.

Nethi, V. (1994). Teaching Values. *Khidmat* 13, 31-33.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Using PERUSALL in an online doctoral level course to promote student engagement by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. at the Virtual FDLA-FAMTE Conference 2021 Sep 29 – Oct 1, 2021.

Transitioning from teacher to vice-principal in international schools in China: An interpretive phenomenological analysis by Tye Norbraten, Ed.D. & Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. at the 20th Annual Thinking Qualitatively Virtual Conference 2021, July 5-9, 2021.

Use of science mobile apps among undergraduate science students and its impact on their interest and learning by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. & Santanu De, Ph.D. at the Virtual FDLA-FAMTE Conference 2020 Sep 30 – Oct 2, 2020.

Virtual learning experiences: Raising the bar for educators during a global pandemic by Jennifer Reeves, Ph.D., Anymir Orellana, Ed.D., Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D., Gabriella Mendez, Ph.D. & Michelle Tenam-Zemach at the Virtual FDLA-FAMTE Conference 2020 Sep 30 – Oct 2, 2020.

Ourselves in her shoes: Interpretive phenomenological; analysis and gendered transnational experiences of women from India by Noreen Ohlrich, Ed.D. & Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. at the 11th Annual Conference of The Qualitative Report (TQR 2020), Nova Southeastern University, Florida, January 14-17, 2020.

From community participatory action research (CPAR) to empowerment evaluation (E.E.): The creation of youth-adult partnerships to improve system of care outcomes for children and families in Broward County by Maritza Concha, Ph.D., Sue Gallagher, Ed.D, Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D., and Samantha Ford, B.A. at the American Evaluation Association (AEA 2019) Conference, Minneapolis, MN November 11-16, 2019.

Research in distance education: Trends in the Quarterly Review of Distance Education journal from 2002-2017 by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. and Anymir Orellana, Ed.D. at the Florida Distance Learning Association Conference 2019, Altamonte Springs, Florida, January 29 - February 1, 2019.

The potential of socio-biologically relevant mobile apps to attract girls to STEM by Santanu De, Ph.D., and Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. at the Florida Distance Learning Association Conference 2019, Altamonte Springs, Florida, January 29 - February 1, 2019.

Building STEM Identities Through Project-based Learning by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. and Sandra Trotman, Ed.D at the Florida Distance Learning Association Conference 2019, Altamonte Springs, Florida, January 16 – 18, 2018.

Proactive Professional Development: PLNs by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. and Adam Murray, Ed.D at the Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT) International Conference 2014, Tsukuba, Japan, November 21 – 24, 2014.

The Value of Student Mobility and Exchange: New Research, New Directions by Sean Matthews, Ph.D., and Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. at the 10th QS-Asia Pacific Professional Leaders in Education Conference 2014, Taipei, Taiwan, November 11-13, 2014.

Transnational Education in the Malaysian Hub: New Trends in Student Experience by Sean Matthews, Ph.D., Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D., and Celia Yeo, MA at the Asia Pacific Association for International Education (APAIE) Conference 2014, Seoul, South Korea, 17 -20 March 2014.

MOOCs: Addressing Global Expectations and Local Realities by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. at the Australian International Education Conference (AIEC) 2013, Canberra, Australia, 8 –11 October 2013.

Potential for MOOCs in Foreign Language Teaching by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. and Adam Murray, Ed.D at the Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT) International Conference 2013, Kobe, Japan, 25 -28 October 2013.

WORKSHOPS

The Power of a Table of Specifications (ToS) in Guiding Data Collection by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. in the Dissertation Support Services (DSS) Workshop Series Fall 2021 (online) on October 6, 2021.

Qualitative Research: Selecting the right Design by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. in the Dissertation Support Services (DSS) Workshop Series Winter 2020 (online) on April 7, 2020.

Interviewing in Qualitative Research by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. in the Dissertation Support Services (DSS) Workshop Series Fall 2019 (online) on November 5, 2019.

A Practical Guide to using Interpretive Phenomenological Analysis (IPA) by Vanaja Nethi, Ph.D. in the Dissertation Support Services (DSS) Workshop Series Winter 2019 (online) on March 26, 2019.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses taught at the doctoral level: Methods of Inquiry, Qualitative Research Design, Qualitative Data Analysis, Survey Research, Program Evaluation, Educational Assessment, Trends and Issues in STEM Curriculum in the Global Context, Professional Development and Performance Assessment in STEM-based Schools, Trends and Issues in Education

Courses taught at the masters and specialist level: Educational Research for Practitioners, Research Design in Education, Educational Field-based Project, Teaching New Concepts in Deep Sea Exploration

Courses taught at the undergraduate level: General Chemistry, Thermodynamics, Science, Malaysian Studies.

RESEARCH, EVALUATION & CONSULTING EXPERIENCE

Community participatory action research (CPAR) project - Children Services Council of Broward County (Mar - Aug 2018)

Faculty review - Biomedical Informatics graduate program, Dr. Kiran C Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine, Nova Southeastern University (Mar 2018 – May 2019)

Malaysian K-12 and higher education expertise sharing - Gerson Lehrman Group Council Member (2006 – 2014)

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Academic Journal Editorial Board

Assistant Editor: *Quarterly Review of Distance Education* (January 2019 – current)

Editorial Board member *The Qualitative Report* (February 2019 – current)

Guest Editor: *Journal Transnational Social Review* for the focus topic: Transnational Education (July 2017 - May 2018)

Reviewer: *Florida Distance Learning Association Journal* (February 2021 – current)

LANGUAGES

Malay - bilingual

Tamil - proficient