Call for Papers
SPECIAL ISSUE: Education, Dialogue and Interculturalism

Editors
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'Intercultural dialogue' is a concept and discourse that has emerged as a distinct form of communication practice only since the 1980s. It has been adopted as the basis for interreligious and interfaith initiatives and since WWII it has become increasingly associated with a liberal theory of modernity and internationalism that presupposes 'freedom', 'democracy', 'human rights' and 'tolerance'. The concept has been adopted by many of the world's major policy organizations such as the United Nations (UN), UNESCO and the Council of Europe (CE) as the dominant thread and paradigm for 'cultural policy' and increasingly the educational basis for the development of intercultural understanding. Intercultural education, communication and understanding have been themes of international cooperation for a long time, but notions of 'dialogue of civilizations' and 'intercultural dialogue' have only recently begun to appear on the political agenda of international institutions. This special issue seeks to explore the background for the rise of interculturalism as an emergent discourse and to examine the concept and the forms of dialogue that support it. Dialogue as both a genre and practice has multiple origins in classical Indian, Greek and Chinese literature. Dialogue is the most venerable pedagogical form for philosophical discourse in the West yet dialogue as the basis of philosophy has taken many different forms since the early days of Academy when Socrates first defined dialectics and the dialogical method of argumentation, including: existential and religious communion (Kierkegaard, Buber); philosophical hermeneutics (Gadamer); rational deliberation (Habermas, Apel); radical pedagogy (Freire); 'polysemany' (Bakhtin); 'language games' (Wittgenstein); and, dialogue as conversation and the basis of liberal education (Oakshott & Rorty). This special issue seeks to explore forms of dialogue as a basis for intercultural philosophy and education and to investigate questions such as: what constitutes dialogue? Does 'dialogue' have validity in contemporary public discourse or in a global lingua franca? What are the classical and contemporary non-Western forms of dialogue?

Please send title, abstract and select bibliography to the editors as soon as possible signaling your intentions for a special issue planned for publication in late 2011 or early 2012. Full papers should be sent by August 31st, 2010.