The Contexts of Improvement-Focused Educational Research

The past decade has seen growing enthusiasm for new approaches to improvement-focused educational research that coordinate disciplined methods of iterative inquiry, design, and evaluation. These approaches use novel organizational forms in which researchers, educational professionals, and stakeholders collaborate to understand and improve classrooms, schools, and systems. Examples include design-based implementation research as conducted in research-practice partnerships; improvement science as enacted in networked improvement communities; and long-term, collaborative research, development, and implementation as enacted in field sites. Dr. Peurach will examine the broader social and policy contexts of this research, both to understand the roots of growing enthusiasm and to speculate about future prospects.