

**The Centre for Culture, Identity and Education and  
The David Lam Chair Office  
Present a lunch time talk by**

**Dr. Siri Gamage  
University of New England, Australia**

**Changing Nature of  
Australian Multiculturalism and  
its implications for  
Ethnic Minorities and Education:**

**Critical Reflections**

**Neville Scarfe 308A  
12:00 noon - 1:30pm**

**Light refreshments will be served**

**DR. SIRI GAMAGE**

University of New England, Australia

Australian multiculturalism and associated political discourses and policies have undergone substantial changes in emphasis and direction in the last decade compared to the previous decades under the liberal-national federal government. The federal government has revised the previous agenda for multicultural Australia and state governments have put in place various generic and education related policies to deal with cultural diversity. In this talk Dr. Gamage will outline the nature of changing multiculturalism in Australia and its implications for ethnic minorities and multicultural education as well as co-existence in a harmonious society. The shift in emphasis on multiculturalism as compared to Australianness (citizenship) will be described along with critical comments.

Dr. Gamage teaches immigrant and multicultural studies as well as social context of education at the University of New England. Migrating to Australia from Sri Lanka in 1986, he has conducted research on the adaptation experiences of Sri lankans in Australia. His research interests range from globalisation, intercultural studies, critical multicultural and race theory to social context of education and multiculturalism across countries. Dr. Gamage is an Associate Faculty of the Centre for Culture, Identity and Education (CCIE) and is currently a visiting professor at the CCIE and the Department of Educational Studies - tel: 822-2524.