Featured Event
KIE Conference
22-24 July 2025
Lisbon, Portugal | Online

E. Paul Torrance Newsletter

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The E. Paul Torrance International Roundtable on Creative Thinking seeks to revitalize Dr. Torrance's legacy on a global scale—especially among today's creativity scholars and enthusiasts. It aims to push the boundaries of knowledge on creative thinking and giftedness while fostering deeper knowledge exchange within and beyond the field of creativity.



Father of Modern Creativity:
Dr Ellis Paul Torrance—8 October 1915 -12 July 2003

11th Annual E. Paul Torrance International Roundtable on Creative Thinking

Topic:
"Torrance at 110: The Future of Creative Thinking in a Complex World"

Date: **Tuesday 22 June 2025**
Venue: VIP Executive Art's Hotel, Lisbon, & Online

Time: 16:00-19:30 (Lisbon)
10.00– 1.30PM (New York)

REFLECTION

Paul Torrance and Kobus Neethling: A Forever Journey

As I reflect on my nearly 25-year journey with Paul Torrance, it becomes clear that our informal moments together had just as much impact on me as our formal academic and research association. At times I was his driver, his shopping companion, and his porter—and on each of these occasions, I was the grateful recipient of invaluable creative wisdom.

In the first photo (below, left), Dr T and I are seated in a lecture hall where I would later deliver that year's Torrance Lecture. He is wearing our ACRE T-shirt—he encouraged me to use that logo, with all its symbolism, for our ACRE conference. For over 20 years, that logo remained our emblem, signifying that he was always, in some way, at the very centre of it all.

In the second photo (opposite, my wife Inge and I are sitting in his living room discussing a new launch of his *Manifesto for Children*—the focus of our conversation being our two preschool-aged sons, for whom Paul had deep affection. He would often take them into his garden, telling them stories as they walked—a gesture I believe left a lifelong impression. To truly understand Paul Torrance's incredible influence, one must look beyond the surface and delve into his gentle humanity.



Photo three (below, right) captures the quintessential Torrance office: always ready to help; a little untidy, perhaps, yet remarkably organised. I remember once asking him for information on Japanese parenting—he immediately pulled out articles from those filing cabinets behind him, not only on parenting, but also on Japanese grandparenting. He was truly whole-brain creativity in action. I believe there are very few, if any, pioneering figures who are still remembered in such a unique and heartfelt way decades later. And perhaps we don't yet fully understand *why*.

-— Kubos Neethling, PhD

Dr. Neethling is President of the South African Creativity Foundation.





KEYNOTE SPEAKERS FOR THE 2025 TORRANCE ROUNDTABLE



Keynoters L-R: *Professor Pamela Burnard, Professor Bill Lucas & Dr Punya Mishra*

Pamela Burnard is an Australian Professor of Arts, Creativities and Educations at the Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, UK. She is presently in the middle of her third phased career. The first phase saw her working as a professional musician in the Creative Industries. The second phase involved working across Early Years, Primary and Secondary sectors as a music educator. In her third phase, she has kept herself very busy publishing widely with 25 books and over 120 articles which advance the theory and practice of pluralising creativities across education and industry sectors including early years, primary, secondary, further and higher/further education, through to creative and cultural industries. Current funded projects include '*Choices, Chances and Transitions around Creative Further and Higher Education*' (funded by The Nuffield Trust). Three of her most recent books include: *Eruptive Research: Changing Landscapes on Research in Teaching and Learning* (Brill-i-Sense, 2025); *Music for Inclusion and Healing in Schools and Beyond: Hip Hop, Techno, Grime and More?* (Oxford University Press, 2023); and The Routledge Companion to Creativities in Music Education. (Routledge, 2023). She is a Fellow of the *Royal Society of Arts* (RSA), the *Chartered College of Teaching* (CCT) in the UK, Professor-in-Residence and Governor at the *University of Cambridge Primary School* and newly appointed Co-Editor of *Music Education Research*. [see a) Pam's full profile, b) Researchgate, c) University of Cambridge Arts, Sciences & Creativities Research Group.

Professor Bill Lucas is Director of the Centre for Real-World Learning at the University of Winchester, UK. He is a writer, speaker and education reformer. Bill's research focuses on understanding those dispositions for learning which help people succeed and flourish in life, how they can be cultivated and how evidenced. Bill's model of creativity, developed with colleagues at the University of Winchester, is now in use in more than thirty countries.

Bill is chair of the advisory board of the Global Institute of Creative Thinking and is a Commissioner for the UK's Digital Badging Commission. He was co-chair of the strategic advisory group for the PISA 2022 Creative Thinking Test and an academic adviser to the Durham Commission on Creativity in Education and to the OECD's recent research into creativity and critical thinking. In 2020, Bill co-founded Rethinking Assessment and in the same year was honoured with a special edition focusing on his work in reforming assessment by the British Psychological Society.

Bill's recent publications include *Creative thinking in schools across the world: a snapshot of progress in 2022* and *A field guide to assessing creative thinking in schools*. His acclaimed critique of the education system, *Educating Ruby: what our children really need to learn,* written with Guy Claxton, asks challenging questions about the future of education. Bill's latest publication is *Creative Thinking in Schools: a Leadership playbook*. It has been translated into Welsh, Thai and Urdu.

Punya Mishra, Professor & Director of *Innovative Learning Futures* at the *Learning Engineering Institute* and Professor at the *Mary Lou Fulton College of Teaching & Learning Innovation* at *Arizona State University*. He also has an affiliate appointment in ASU's *Design School*. As director, he provides strategic vision around research, program development, and public engagement to the institute. Prior to this he served as associate dean of *Scholarship & Innovation*, leading multiple initiatives, on developing a future-forward, equity-driven, collaborative approach to educational research. He is internationally recognized for his work in educational technology; the role of creativity and aesthetics in learning; and the application of design to educational innovation. He has received over $11 million in grants; published over 200 articles and edited 5 books. A recipient of AECT's *David H. Jonassen Excellence in Research Award,* with over 67,000 citations of his research, he is ranked among the top 2% of scientists worldwide (ranked #91 in social science) and the #62 (#11 in psychology) amongst scholars with the biggest influence on educational practice and policy. An *AERA Fellow* and *TED-Ed educator*, he co-hosts the award-winning *Silver Lining for Learning* and the *Learning Futures* podcasts. He is an award-winning instructor, having taught courses, at all levels in educational technology, educational psychology, design, and creativity. He is also an engaging public-speaker and an accomplished visual artist. (See also Punya's personal homepage.)

Chris Wilson is Head of Quality Enhancement at Aston University in the UK. With nearly 30 years of experience in higher education, Chris brings a multidisciplinary background spanning music, the arts, and engineering. His research focuses on creativity and education, informed by longstanding engagement in supporting new educators and advancing the professional recognition of senior academic leaders, and he is an active member of the Advisory Board of



Chris Wilson

KEYNOTERS FOR, & CHAIR OF THE 2025 TORRANCE ROUNDTABLE





Keynoters L-R: *Dr Freddie Reisman, Dr Angus Fletcher & Dr Larry Keiser, chair*

the Freddie Reisman Center for Translational Research in Creativity and Motivation. A Principal Fellow of Advance HE, Chris has led and supported professional development initiatives internationally, including in Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Greece, and Oman.

Angus Fletcher (PhD, Yale) is Professor of Story Science at Ohio State's Project Narrative. His research into narrative cognition has been funded by institutes such as the National Science Foundation, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science, and the National Endowment for the Arts. His recent books include *Wonderworks: Literary Invention and the Science of Story* (Simon and Schuster, 2021), *Storythinking: The New Science of Narrative Intelligence* (Columbia University Press, 2023), *Narrative Creativity: Theory and Practice* (Cambridge University Press, 2024), and *Primal Intelligence* (Penguin Random House, 2025). He has been honored with the Torrance Lecture at the University of Georgia and with the US Army Commendation Medal for his "groundbreaking research" with US Special Operations into creative thinking.

Fredricka Reisman, Ph.D., Emerita Professor, is founder of the Drexel University School of Education and is Director of the Freddie Reisman Center for Translational Research in Creativity and Motivation (FRC) created in 2022 with a $1.5million dollar gift to Drexel by a major doner. She also serves as Co-Director of the Drexel/Torrance Center for Creativity and Innovation while continuing to teach in Drexel's Creativity & Innovation programs that she founded and to serve on dissertation committees for doctoral students interested in the Creativity & Innovation concentration.

Dr. Reisman received her PhD in Mathematics Education from Syracuse University. She was a 3 and 5 grade, middle school and high school mathematics teacher in New York State and a mathematics education instructor at Syracuse University (SU) where she also was the Diagnostic Mathematics Clinician in the SU Arithmetic Studies Center which at that time was the first in the nation. Prior to Drexel, Dr. Reisman served as Professor and Chair of the Division of Elementary Education at the University of Georgia where for 12 years she worked closely, engaged in research and published with Dr. E. Paul Torrance, known world-wide as the "Father of Creativity".

Dr. Reisman has been awarded over $14,800,000 in private and government grants to support her research and teacher education projects. She has served as an evaluator on funded engineering projects and numerous Pennsylvania and New York State university teacher certification programs. Dr. Reisman has created several books, contributions to books, journal publications, and assessments that focus on mathematics learning and teaching in addition to creativity applications including the co-created Reisman Diagnostic Creativity Assessment (RDCA) and the Reisman Diagnostic Motivation Assessment (RDMA) and a 2021 co-authored book published by Routledge entitled Using Creativity to Address Dyslexia, Dysgraphia, and Dyscalculia: Assessment and Techniques. She has served since 2013 and continues as the editor for the Knowledge, Innovation & Enterprise (KIE) conference books. She is co-author of a Cambridge University Press 2024 book entitled "Connecting Creativity and Motivation Research to Classroom Experience: Lab to Learner".

Dr. Reisman was awarded the 2001 New Millennium Foundation Technology Award, the national 2002 Champion of Creativity Award by the American Creativity Association (ACA), and the 2017 National Association for Gifted Children E. Paul Torrance Award. Drexel University honored her in the Spring of 2020, where the university-wide faculty creativity award was renamed the " *Freddie Reisman Faculty Scholarly and Creative Activity Awards*."

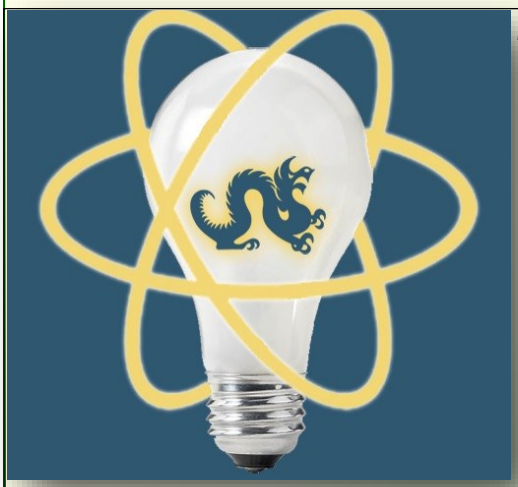
Kyung-Hee Kim (Kay Kim) is professor of creativity and innovation at College of William & Mary School of Education, Virginia, USA**.** Kay is an inventor, with two bio-medical technology US patents, and best-selling author, including *The Creativity Challenge* (USA, 2016), *Education for the Future* (Korea, 2019) and *Let Them Play Outside the Box* (Korea, 2019). She believes everyone can become an innovator using creative thinking skills. Her humble origin on a farm in Korea proves it. Her life's work promotes creative thinking skills of mastery, imagination, and critical thinking as antidotes to creativity-killing social conformity and test-centric rigidity. She began that work studying under the father of creativity, E. Paul Torrance. Kay won the Berlyne Award (2009) from the American Psychological Association, and the Hollingworth Award (2008), the Early Scholar Award (2011), and the Torrance Award (2018) from the National Association for Gifted Children, becoming one of the foremost experts on creativity assessment and innovation. Her *Creativity Quotient* assessment uses her eye-tracking patent. Media and government leaders frequently seek her expertise through interviews and speaking engagements. It is her passion to promote entrepreneurship through the creative thinking methodologies of her life's work.



Dr KH Kim

For the complete list of 2025 KIE Conference keynote speakers please visit: www.kiecon.org.

Reisman Diagnostic Creativity Assessment (RDCA) SIG



*Conference participants are cordially invited to attend the **Reisman Diagnostics Creativity Assessment Special Interest Group (RDCA SIG)** that will take place on Tuesday 23 July 2024. Presentations will be Moderated by co-developer of the RDCA tool, Dr Larry Keiser,* Program Director of the Creativity & Innovation degree and certificate program, Co-Director of the Freddie Reisman Center for Translational Research in Creativity and Motivation (FRC), and Assistant Clinical Profess in Drexel University's School of Education.

The Reisman Diagnostic Creativity Assessment (RDCA) is a free downloadable Apple App (via iTunes) which captures eleven creativity research-based factors such as originality, fluency, flexibility, tolerance of ambiguity, resistance to premature closure, risk taking, intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, divergent and convergent thinking, and elaboration.

Some items in the RDCA extends Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking (TTCT), which is predicated, in part, on the work of Joy Paul Guildford. The RDCA SIG honours Dr Reisman's work.

***Preamble:** The Reisman Diagnostic Motivation Assessment (RDMA) now joins the Reisman Diagnostic Creativity Assessment (RDCA) as a tool for assessing the factors that comprise creativity and motivation. Both assessments will be featured in the panel discussion and will include discussion of our impetus for creating these assessments and future role these assessments will play in Drexel's Creativity Programs and the Freddie Reisman Center for Translational Research in Creativity and Motivation, which also be described.*

RDCA SIG PRESENTATION: Wednesday 23rd July 2025, 14:00-15:30 (Time in Lisbon)





***L-R: Panellists** Dr Fredricka Reisman, Drexel University & Dr Larry Keiser, Moderator & co-developer of the RDCA tool*



Gayle Byock

Larry Keiser is Program Director of the Creativity & Innovation degree and certificate program, Co-Director of the Freddie Reisman Center for Translational Research in Creativity and Motivation (FRC), and Assistant Clinical Profess in Drexel University's School of Education. Larry's current research centers on creativity, motivation, and entrepreneurship, investigating individual and group creativity levels and workplaces (K-16 education, corporate, and business), particularly how education leaders' and corporate/business leaders' creativity mindsets relate to the entrepreneurial mindset. Larry presents nationally and internationally, served on the Board of the American Creativity Association, and has chaired the E.P. Torrance International Roundtable on Creative Thinking and the Kaufman Family Research Symposium for the KIE (Knowledge, Innovation, and Enterprise) International Conference for the last several years. He has been funded upwards of $23M over the previous 20 years from the US and PA Departments of Education, NSF, and private foundations and organizations in collaboration with other Drexel faculty and external partners to design and implement educational partnerships. These projects include designing/implementing national and regional school/district partnerships in support of alternative preparation pathways for K-12 teachers; professional development activities for improving pre-service and in-service teachers' STEM content knowledge and pedagogy; designing/implementing school leadership improvement programs; better integrating appropriate technology into PreK-16 teaching and learning processes; and promoting creativity and innovation in schools, the workplace and in life.

While at UCLA for 20 years, Gayle Byock creatively designed and launched innovative inter- and intra-institutional programs to foster the university's research and service missions. As Assistant Vice Chancellor of Research, she fostered a dynamic and collaborative research climate among departments and faculty, as well as with funders. As the founding Assistant Dean of a new Professional School of Public Policy and Social Welfare, she worked to integrate research into various Los Angeles community agendas.

Contact us: E: kieteam@kiecon.org
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