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Dimensions of student participation: participatory action research in a teacher education context

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Curriculum Vitae

Curriculum Vitae

Ben Smit was born on June 19th, 1958 in Leiden, the Netherlands, but he grew up in Leiderdorp. He completed secondary education - Gymnasium A - at the Bonaventura College in Leiden. He graduated in 1985 as a psychologist at Leiden University, with a major in educational studies and minors in educational sociology and computers & education. After graduating he worked as a researcher and project leader, first at the Leiden Interdisciplinary Centre for Educational Research (LICOR) and later at the Leiden Institute for Social Science Research (LISWO), where he specialised in the fields of educational policy research, student careers in higher education and teacher education.

Since 1995 he has worked at ICLON, Graduate School of Teaching at Leiden University as an advisor/researcher in the field of research on teachers and teacher education. From 2008 until 2011 he combined his position at ICLON with activities as an advisor/researcher in a newly established research group with Petra Ponte at Utrecht University of Applied Sciences, Faculty of Education. Furthermore, since 2005, he is actively involved in the international *Pedagogy, Education & Praxis* (PEP) research programme, as a member of the network and the PEP Theme Group 'Learning & Didaktik/Professional Learning'. Since 2011, he is the International Coordinator for the PEP node in the Netherlands.

In the last 15 years, Ben's research interests circle around action research and practitioner research in educational settings, specifically in teacher education. Besides methodological issues related to this type of research, student participation and the changing position of participants in educational research have become the focus of his research. In 2015, he started his PhD project 'Teachers and students as partners in researching educational practice', which he presented at several national and international conferences (ORD, CARN, ECER, AARE).

Currently, Ben continues working at ICLON, as an educational researcher, mostly in the field of teacher professional learning and teacher research, with a special interest in action research approaches.

Publications and presentations

Selected publications and presentations

Scientific publications

Articles in peer-reviewed journals

- Smit, B. H. J.**, Meirink, J. A., Tigelaar, D. E. H., Berry, A. K., & Admiraal, W. F. (2022). Principles for school student participation in pre-service teacher action research: A practice architecture's perspective. *Educational Action Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09650792.2022.2121933>
- Smit, B. H. J.**, Meirink, J. A., Berry, A. K., & Admiraal, W. F. (2020). Source, respondent, or partner? Involvement of secondary school students in Participatory Action Research. *International Journal of Educational Research*, 100, 1-12. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijer.2020.101544>
- Hardy, I., Jakhelln, R., & **Smit, B. H. J.** (2020). The policies and politics of teachers' initial learning: The complexity of national initial teacher education policies. *Teacher Education*, 1-23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10476210.2020.1729115>
- Admiraal, W., Kruiter, J., Lockhorst, D., Schenke, W., Sligte, H., **Smit, B.**, Tigelaar, D., & de Wit, W. (2016). Affordances of teacher professional learning in secondary schools. *Studies in Continuing Education*, 38(3), 281-298. <https://doi.org/10.1080/0158037X.2015.1114469>
- Zwart, R., **Smit, B. H. J.**, & Admiraal, W. (2015). Docentonderzoek nader bekeken: een reviewstudie naar de aard en betekenis van onderzoek door docenten [A closer look at teacher research: A review study into the nature and meaning of teachers' practitioner research]. *Pedagogische Studiën*, 92(2), 131-148.
- Admiraal, W., **Smit, B. H. J.**, & Zwart, R. (2014). Models and design principles for teacher research. *IB Journal of Teaching Practice*, 2(1), 1-6. <https://xmltwo.ibo.org/journal/index.php/ibjottp/article/view/115>
- Smit, B. H. J.** (2013). Young people as co-researchers: enabling student participation in educational practice. *Professional Development in Education*, 39(4), 550-573. <https://doi.org/10.1080/19415257.2013.796297>
- Van Swet, J., **Smit, B. H. J.**, Corvers, L., & Van Dijk, I. (2009). Critical friendship as a contribution to master's-level work in an international programme of study. *Educational Action Research*, 17(3), 339-357. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09650790903093292>

Books and book chapters

- Smit, B. H. J.** (2016). Young people as co-researchers: enabling student participation in educational practice. In J. Wilkinson, L. Bristol, & P. Ponte (Eds.), *Professional Development: Education for all as praxis* (pp. 100-123). Routledge. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19415257.2013.796297>
- Ponte, P., & **Smit, B. H. J.** (2016). Education for all as praxis: consequences for the profession. In J. Wilkinson, L. Bristol, & P. Ponte (Eds.), *Professional Development: Education for all as praxis* (pp. 5-19). Routledge. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/19415257.2013.796296>

Manuscripts submitted/under review

- Smit, B. H. J.**, Tigelaar, D. E. H., Berry, A. K., & Admiraal, W. F. (under review). Teacher educators' views on educating pre-service teachers for participatory action research in secondary schools.

Presentations

Conference contributions

- Smit, B. H. J.**, Tigelaar, D., Berry, A., & Admiraal, W. (2022, November 27-December 1). *Preparing secondary teachers for co-researching with their students: principles for a teacher education program* AARE Conference 2022, Adelaide, Australia.
- Hardy, I., Jakhelln, R., & **Smit, B. H. J.** (2018, December 2-6). *The policy and politics of teachers' initial learning: Netherlands, Norway and Australia* AARE Conference 2018, Sydney, Australia.

- Smit, B. H. J.**, Admiraal, W. F., & Berry, A. K. (2018, June 13-15). *Docenten en leerlingen als mede-onderzoekers: Participatory Action Research in de lerarenopleiding* ORD 2018, Nijmegen.
- Smit, B. H. J.**, Admiraal, W. F., & Berry, A. K. (2018, December 2-6). *From PAR to Partnership: design of a teacher education program preparing for student participation in schools* AARE Conference 2018, Sydney, Australia.
- Van Kan, C., Brouwer, P., **Smit, B. H. J.**, Spreeuwenberg, L., Van Swet, J., & Admiraal, W. (2018, 12-14 November). *From master student to master teacher: The meaning of teacher research for school practice* [Conference presentation (part of symposium 'Impact of master programs for teachers in the Netherlands')]. EAPRIL 2018, Portoroz, Slovenia.
- Olin, A., Jakhelln, R., & **Smit, B. H. J.** (2017, August 22-25). *Understanding 'Research-based educational practice' in Initial and Continuing Teacher Professional Learning* [in Symposium: *The Politics and Practices of Teacher Professional Learning (Part II): Current Policy Conditions in Sweden, Norway, Finland, Netherlands and Australia*; chair: Ian Hardy] ECER 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Hardy, I. J., Olin, A., Heikkinen, H., Jakhelln, R., **Smit, B. H. J.**, & Tyren, L. (2017, August 22-25). *The Policy, Politics, Practice and Praxis of Teachers' Initial and Continuing Learning* [in Symposium: *The Politics and Practices of Teacher Professional Learning (Part II): Current Policy Conditions in Sweden, Norway, Finland, Netherlands and Australia*; chair: Ian Hardy] ECER 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- Smit, B. H. J.**, Admiraal, W. F., & Berry, A. K. (2017, August 22-25). *'Focus on the Learner' in Teacher Education: PAR as a Strategy to Enable Student Voice in Schools* ECER 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- van Kan, C., Brouwer, P., **Smit, B.**, Spreeuwenberg, L., van Swet, J., & Admiraal, W. (2017, August 22-25). *Moving Beyond the Research-practice Gap: Impact of Teacher Research on Professional Development and Knowledge Utilization in Schools* ECER 2017, Copenhagen, Denmark.
- van Kan, C., Brouwer, P., **Smit, B.**, Spreeuwenberg, L., van Swet, J., & Admiraal, W. (2017, June 28-30). *Voorbij de kloof tussen onderwijsonderzoek en de onderwijspraktijk* ORD 2017, Antwerpen.
- Smit, B. H. J.**, Admiraal, W. F., & Berry, A. K. (2016, Nov 29). *"Let's find out together!": Participatory action research by student teachers and school students in secondary education* AARE 2016, Melbourne, Australia.
- Smit, B. H. J.**, Meirink, J., & Emmelot, Y. (2015). *Interventies in school ter bevordering van een school als professionele leergemeenschap* Onderwijs Research Dagen 2015, Leiden, The Netherlands.
- Smit, B. H. J.**, Olin, A., Edwards-Groves, C., Furu, E. M., & Karlberg-Granlund, G. (2014, 19-21 November). *Dialogue and recognition in educational partnerships: A five nation study* APERA-HKERA Conference 2014, Hong Kong, P.R. China.
- Admiraal, W., **Smit, B.**, Geboers, E., & Tigelaar, D. (2014, June 11-13). *Symposium 'Professionele leercultuur in vo-scholen' - Deelonderzoek 1: Veldverkenning* Onderwijs Research Dagen 2014, Groningen, The Netherlands.
- Smit, B. H. J.** (2013, November 8). Teachers and students as co-researching partners: pupil participation in an educational action research project. Symposium 'Partnership & Recognition', CARN conference 2013, Tromsø, Norway.
- Smit, B. H. J.** (2013, 29-31 May). *Leerlingen en leraren als onderzoekers: Ontwikkeling van een strategie voor leerlingenparticipatie* Onderwijs Research Dagen 2013, Brussels, Belgium.
- Ponte, P., & **Smit, B. H. J.** (2011, 13-16 September). Education for All as Praxis research program: An exploration of views and concepts. Symposium 'Education For All As Praxis' (chair: Dr. Brian Hemmings) at the European Conference on Educational Research (ECER) 2011, Berlin, Germany.
- Smit, B. H. J.** (2011, 12 September). Education for All as Praxis research program: Views and concepts. Symposium 'Pedagogy, Education & Praxis' at the Dept. of Education and Special Education, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden.

Smit, B. H. J., Ponte, P., & Plomp, L. (2011, 14-15 maart). Leerlingen als medeonderzoekers: een nieuwe leerling-leraar relatie. VELON Congres 2011, Noordwijkerhout, Nederland.

Smit, B. H. J., Plomp, L., & Ponte, P. (2010, 28 November - 2 December). Pupils and teacher as co-researchers: conditions for equal voices. Symposium 'Consulting young people: Why student voice matters' (chair: Professor Susan Groundwater-Smith) at the AARE Conference 2010: 'Making a difference', Melbourne, Australia.

Plomp, L., **Smit, B. H. J.**, & Ponte, P. (2009, 30 October - 1 November). Pupils as co-researchers: Finding evidence for changes in the pedagogical relation of pupils and teachers. 33rd Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN) International Conference, Athens, Greece.

Smit, B. H. J., & Ponte, P. (2007, 9-11 November). The position of the researcher and the researched in practitioner research: Issues of quality [symposium]. Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN) Conference, Umeå, Sweden.

Smit, B. H. J., & Ponte, P. (2006, 10-12 November). Triggering thoughts: elicitation methods in action research and practitioner research. CARN Conference 2006, Nottingham, UK.

Other presentations

Smit, B. H. J. (2020, December 6). *Source, respondent, or partner? Involvement of secondary school students in Participatory Action Research* Discussion session at the PEP International Meeting 2020, online.

Smit, B. H. J. (2013, November 7). *PEP Network - Theme Group 2 'Partnership & Recognition'* Seminar 'Pedagogy, Education & Praxis (PEP) Network', University of Tromsø / the Arctic University of Norway, Department of Education, Tromsø, Norway.

Smit, B. H. J. (2011, 12 September). The 'Pupils as co-researchers' project. Symposium 'Pedagogy, Education & Praxis' at the Dept. of Education and Special Education, University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden.

Van Swet, J., **Smit, B. H. J.**, & Ponte, P. (2005, 5 November). Sharing the strategy: collaboration in writing an international publication. Round table presentation in the symposium 'A thoughtful but unchecked spreading strategy: the development of a curriculum for professional masters' courses'. International Practitioner Research Conference & Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN) Conference (PRAR/CARN 2005), Utrecht, The Netherlands.

Other output

Droppers, A., Ermers, C., Gruijthuijsen, R.-J., Jonker, R., Meijer, L., Nicolassen, I., Overdiep, C., Roon, L., **Smit, B.**, & Snoek, M. (2021). *Grenzen verleggen: Professionalisering tijdens innovaties door leraren*. https://www.lerarenontwikkelfonds.nl/wp-content/uploads/Onderzoek_grenzen_verleggen_-def.pdf

Schenke, W., Sligte, H., Admiraal, W., Buisman, M., Emmelot, Y., Meirink, J., & **Smit, B.** (2015). *Scan School als Professionele Leergemeenschap*. Kohnstamm Instituut.

Smit, B. H. J. (2014, May 15). Pupil participation is not a favour to students, it is their right. *ICLON Research Blog*. <http://researchblog.iclon.nl/pupil-participation-is-not-a-favour-to-students-it-is-their-right/>

Smit, B. H. J., & Verbeek, G. (2014). Een palet van mogelijkheden: Leerlingonderzoek in Australië [A palette of possibilities: Student research in Australia]. In G. Verbeek & P. Ponte (Eds.), *Participatie in het onderwijs: Onderzoek met en door leerlingen* (pp. 133-158). Boom Lemma Uitgevers.

Smit, B. H. J. (2012). Leerlingenparticipatie is geen gunst aan leerlingen, het is hun recht. In G. Verbeek & B. H. J. Smit (Eds.), *Rechtvaardig onderwijs: Slotakkoord lectoraat Petra Ponte 'Gedrag en onderzoek in de educatieve praxis'* (pp. 45-48). Boom Lemma uitgevers.

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- Van Swet, J., & **Smit, B. H. J.** (2008, 7-9 November). Becoming “critical friends” in multicultural tutor groups: Reflections on an international master’s course in SEN. Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN) Conference, Liverpool, UK.
- Ponte, P., & **Smit, B. H. J.** (2007). Introduction: Doing research and being researched? In P. Ponte & B. H. J. Smit (Eds.), *The quality of practitioner research: Reflections on the position of the researcher and the researched* (pp. 1-8). Sense Publishers.
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- Van Swet, J., Ponte, P., & **Smit, B. H. J.** (2007). A platform for joint international cooperation: Introduction to a conceptual challenge. In J. Van Swet, P. Ponte, & B. H. J. Smit (Eds.), *Postgraduate programmes as platform: A research-led approach* (pp. 3-18). Sense Publishers.
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- Ponte, P., & **Smit, B.**, (Eds.). (2005). *Quality of Practitioner Research / Action Research: what's it about, what's it for and what next? Proceedings of the International Practitioner Research Conference & Collaborative Action Research Network (CARN) Conference (PRAR/CARN 2005)* [CD-ROM]. Fontys University of Professional Education / OSO.

Dankwoord / Acknowledgment

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In de loop der jaren heb ik al vele ICLON-promovendi mogen bijstaan op hun weg naar de verdediging van hun proefschrift; en nu ben ik dan zelf in deze positie. Ik zal verklappen dat enige ervaring in dit soort zaken helpt in praktische zin, maar dat het geenszins garandeert dat alles van een leien dakje gaat. Ook mijn promotieproject was een leerzame zoektocht, maar gelukkig meestal met het karakter van een mooie groepsreis.

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Voor de voltooiing van dit proefschrift is waardevolle en stimulerende begeleiding van mijn beide promotoren, Wilfried Admiraal en Mandi Berry, mijn huidige copromotor Dineke Tigelaar en voormalige copromotor Jacobiene Meirink onontbeerlijk geweest. Wilfried, dankzij jou is ‘mijn’ onderwerp leerlingenparticipatie uitgemond in een werkelijk project en is het gekomen tot een succesvolle voltooiing daarvan. Ik waardeer enorm jouw snelle, constructieve en richtinggevende feedback, maar daarbij ook altijd ruimte latend voor eigen doordenking en keuzes. *Mandi, your input was indispensable in setting up the studies in the World Teacher Program. And even though you worked in a completely different time zone than I did here in the Netherlands, your expert feedback and certainly also mental support always found its way from Down Under to here on time.* Jacobiene en Dineke, dank voor jullie gedegen en diepgaande duik in de data en voor de waardevolle discussies over de inhoud en opzet van de artikelen die daarop volgden. Jullie hielden mij met geduld en volharding op koers naar de afronding van dit proefschrift, veel dank daarvoor.

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When I co-organized the PRAR/CARN conference in 2005, which became the starting point of the international Pedagogy, Education and Praxis (PEP) Network, I could not have guessed how valuable, productive, and inspiring this network would become and still is for my academic life. I thank my colleagues and friends at PEP for their thought-provoking insights, discussions, and collaboration and the broader cultural and international perspective on education that these always evoke. I wish all researchers such a group of academic friends.

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- Mansvelder-Longayroux, D.D. (2006). *The learning portfolio as a tool for stimulating reflection by student teachers*.
- Meirink, J.A. (2007). *Individual teacher learning in a context of collaboration in teams*.
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- Bakker, M.E.J. (2008). *Design and evaluation of video portfolios: Reliability, generalizability, and validity of an authentic performance assessment for teachers*.
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- Wongsopawiro, D. (2012). *Examining science teachers pedagogical content knowledge in the context of a professional development program.*
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- Louws, M.L. (2016). *Professional learning: what teachers want to learn.*
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- Lamers-Reeuwijk, A.M. (2020). *Teaching and professional development in transnational education in Oman.*
- De Vrind, E. (2020). *The SpeakTeach method: Towards self-regulated learning of speaking skills in foreign languages in secondary schools: an adaptive and practical approach.*
- De Jong, L.A.H. (2021). *Teacher professional learning and collaboration in secondary schools.*
- Zhang, X. (2021). *Teachers' teaching and learning motivation in China.*
- Wang, J. (2021). *Technology integration in education: Policy plans, teacher practices, and student outcomes.*
- Guo, P. (2021). *Online project-based higher education: Student collaboration and outcomes.*
- Jin, X. (2021). *Peer feedback in teacher professional development.*
- Keijzer-Groot, R. (2021). *Vocational identity of at-risk youth: Tailoring to support career chances.*
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- Galikyan, I. (2022). *Learner–learner interaction in digital learning environments: What and how are we measuring?*
- De Boer, E. (2022). *Towards an ecological approach to teacher professional development: How preservice biology teachers direct their learning routes in authentic classroom settings.*
- Kroneman, M. (2022). *Peer education as an opportunity for practicing respect for sexual and gender diversity.*
- Le, T.T.T. (2022). *Towards a democratic school: Experience and viewpoints of stakeholders in Vietnamese secondary schools.*
- Zhou, N. (2023). *Professional learning of vocational teachers in the context of work placement.*
- Smit, B.H.J. (2023). *Dimensions of student participation: Participatory action research in a teacher education context.*