

# THE EDU-LEAD READ

[HTTP://EDUCATION.NWU.AC.ZA/EDU-LEAD](http://education.nwu.ac.za/edu-lead)



*Edu-Lead notifications /  
Dates to save*

30, 31 Oct & 1 Nov  
Edu-Lead Writing retreat

13 November  
Wednesday session on  
"Mixed Methods Research"  
to be presented by Prof  
Edmore Mutekwe

## GLOBAL EDUCATION AND NEO-LIBERALISM, OR WHAT MAKES SARAH HAPPY

PRESENTED BY PROF STEPHEN BALL

Prof. Stephen Ball, distinguished Service Professor of Sociology of Education at the University of London, presented at the Edu-Lead Wednesday Session on the 9th of October 2019 on Global Education and Neo-Liberalism. The monthly Edu-Lead Wednesday Sessions provide opportunities to the members to discuss relevant and emerging trends in research and the niche area.

Prof. Ball placed focus on the private sector as an emerging driving force in education and private institutions' role in providing technology in the education sector. Prof. Ball stated that education is moving away from local control and facing a greater influence of the private sector, especially in providing technology and finances.

Prof. Ball maintained that a careful and skeptical approach should be taken combined with intensified research on education technology and private funding in order to understand it in terms of profit and government policies. The commercialisation and finance of education brings a shift in the philosophy of education policies, with the latter moving towards heterogeneity.

Increased private funding and donations is followed by increased private control in education. As technology is becoming a more crucial component of 21st Century education, one should however consider the cost and influence that the powerful private sector can inflict on education.