

Research talk by Prof. Dr. Samuel Greiff



Title

“The Concepts of Complex and Collaborative Problem Solving and Their Assessment”

When

March 2 from 16.00 s.t. – 17.30, Room 2401, Leopoldstr. 13

Abstract

One general goal of society is placing people in jobs and educational tracks according to their individual skill level, fostering their abilities, and systematically training them. To do so, these skills have to be quantified and adequate assessment devices are a prerequisite for this. This talk considers two transversal skills, *Complex Problem Solving* and *Collaborative Problem Solving*. Both play an important role in the most important international educational large-scale assessment, the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA): A computer-based assessment of Complex Problem Solving was included in the PISA 2012 survey and Collaborative Problem Solving was assessed in the latest PISA 2015 cycle with over half a million students in over 70 countries. While results of these assessments will yield important implications for educationalists, and politicians around the globe, the role of complex and collaborative problem solving is controversial among cognitive scientists. In this talk, conceptual backgrounds, assessment instruments, and empirical findings will be presented in a nutshell and directions for future scientific endeavors are discussed.

Biography

Prof Dr Samuel Greiff is research group leader, principal investigator, and ATTRACT-fellow at University of Luxembourg). He has been and continues to be involved in the 2012, 2015, and 2018 cycle of the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), for instance as external advisor to the PISA 2012 and 2015 Expert and Subject Matter Expert Groups and as contracting partner at his institution. In this, he has considerably shaped the understanding of problem solving in PISA 2012 and of collaborative problem solving in PISA 2015. He has been working for several years on the assessment of transversal skills such as complex and collaborative problem solving and their role in the classroom, at work, and in private life. Currently, he is involved in the large-scale assessment of problem solving, collaboration, and life-long learning in various populations and leads a team of test developers, research assistants and graduate students dedicated at increasing the understanding, the measurement, and the application of different aspects of transversal skills and lifelong learning in educational contexts.