Bureau of Educational Research

2008-2009 Seminar Series

with the Department of Special Education

Present

Reworking the Transition Script: People with Intellectual Mental Disabilities into the first 10 Years of Adult Life

Friday, December 12, 2008

12:00pm-1:00pm 22Education

Dr. Patrick Devlieger

Associate Professor of Anthropology

Katholieke Universiteit Leuven

Visiting Research Professor

Department of Disability and Human Development

University of Illinois Chicago

Patrick Devlieger received a Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Illinois and was a research assistant with the Transition Research Institute. Currently, he teaches at the University of Leuven (Belgium). Publications include 'Rethinking Disability' (2003) and Blindness and the Multi-Sensorial City (2006).

Dr. Devlieger will review some of the scripts that ***young people with mild intellectual disabilities*** formulated as they were ***transitioning into adult life*** based on ethnographic life history research in 1993-1994. A ***script is a retrospective view on how life took some turns up to the big turn into adult life***. Some ethnographic life histories will serve as exemplary cases.

The presentation will also include a review of how scripts were rewritten over the course of ten years based on ethnographic interviews in 2007. In particular, we reflect on the impact of agency (the person-self), community settings and experiences, and the workings of history to interpret how people (re)define themselves.