

# Abstracts of Keynote Speeches

Keynote Speech on *Education equity and justice*

## **Beyond the Buzzword: Sociologising Resilience with the Multi-Rs Model**

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Different from much sociological research on the structural disadvantage of certain student populations, this presentation takes a strengths-based approach, delving into children's journeys of resilience. I begin by mapping resilience from a multidisciplinary perspective, framing it as a highly contested human construct. Then, I sociologise resilience not merely as a matter of individual triumph in precarious conditions but also transformative, reflexive, and power-rejective everyday practices that render social change possible, probable, and even inevitable. Drawing on a multi-year Australian study, I recast resilience sociologically into the Multi-Rs Model, comprising Reconciliation, Recalcitrance, Retreat, Redirection, Reconstruction, and Reflexivity. I conclude with an invitation to rethink resilience sociologically for the purpose of educational and social change.

**Guanglun Michael Mu** is Associate Professor and Enterprise Fellow at the University of South Australia. He is also the Portfolio Lead Research of the Centre for Research in Educational and Social Inclusion. Michael is a sociologist of education interested in building resilience in (im)migration contexts. His work has attracted a total research income of over 1.7 million Australian dollars and generated over 100 scholarly publications. His current research on international students has been featured in major national and international media outlets such as ABC news, SBS news, Times Higher Education, and University World News. His recent paper Scapegoating international students for the rental crisis? Insights from large-scale evidence (2017-2024) in Australia has generated a significant impact among academics, politicians, and the general public. The altmetric of this article is among the top 4% of all tracked journal articles of a similar age of all disciplines across the world.

Michael is the chief editor of Routledge book series Bourdieu and Education of Asia Pacific and the chair of the AERA SIG Bourdieu in Educational Research. Beyond academia, Michael is a classical pianist and picture book writer. His picture books Journey to Resilience: Kaya's First Day of School and Journey to Resilience: Feng and the Phoenix Fruit are widely read by children in Australasia and north America.