

## Methodology of measurement and assessment of students: where are we today?

Conference in honor of Jean Cardinet's 80th birthday  
14 - 15 January 2008

Neuchâtel, [Rue Emile Argand 11](#)  
Auditoire Louis-Guillaume

Jean Cardinet has been one of the pioneers in educational research in the French speaking part of Switzerland. He also has been the head of the research department of the Institute of Research and Pedagogical Documentation, Neuchâtel, Switzerland (in French, IRDP - Institut de recherche et documentation pédagogique, Neuchâtel, [www.irdp.ch](http://www.irdp.ch)). To celebrate Jean Cardinet's 80th birthday and in recognition of his lifelong contribution to the educational measurement, in particular to the generalizability theory, IRDP is organizing a two-day workshop. The workshop will be held in Neuchâtel, on 14-15 January 2008. It will bring researchers and students together to discuss the state of need against the state of the art in educational testing and assessment.

At the present time, researchers and educational practitioners are engaged in validating competence models and operationalising minimum standards using various evaluation tools that gather data in the form of tests, items, scales and questionnaires. The results of such an evaluation depend on several methodological issues which the IRDP would like to have debated:

- In international survey programmes (PISA, for example) a largely psychometric-based competence model is currently favoured. How is the definition of competencies influenced by this model? What is the effect of this definition on competence evaluation? What are the limits of psychometrics applied within education?
- How to decide minimum standards? What methods are used today to help with this task, and how can we know that the results are valid?
- How can we best differentiate performances or abilities, how can we hierarchically organize levels of difficulty or of attitudes?

**Speakers :** Jean-Guy Blais (University of Montreal, Canada), Claus H. Carstensen (University of Kiel, Germany), Marc Demeuse (University of Mons, Belgium), Cees A. W. Glas (University of Twente, the Netherlands), Sandra Johnson (Assessment Europe), Dany Laveault (University of Ottawa, Canada), Erich Ramseier (BiEv – Department of education of the canton of Bern), Thierry Rocher (DEPP – Department of evaluation, forecasting and performance, Paris, France), Linda Allal (University of Geneva, intervening speaker).

**Organizers:** Matthis Behrens (head of IRDP), Alina Matei (researcher), Doris Penot (secretary)

**Registration fees :** 150.- SFR (75.- SFR for students)

**Information and registration** by 15 December 2008 to: [info@irdp.ch](mailto:info@irdp.ch)

**The language of the conference is English**