ERME Brown Bag Seminar

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Topic: Teacher Professional Development for Integrating Multiple Technologies into Teaching: A Blended Model

Abstract: Students, teachers, schools, technology and some additional factors constitute the complex learning environments in 21st century. While each component in this complicated structure has its own unique properties, infrastructure, needs, and so on; they are also tightly associated with each other. A relatively early research recognizes the teacher effect as one of the dominant factors influencing student academic gain among the other classroom context variables. More recent research identifies teacher professional developments' essential impact on improvement in schools.

Recently, a nationwide project called FATIH (Movement of Enhancing Opportunities and Improving Technology) is initiated by Turkish Ministry of National Education to integrate touch screen smart tools into the classroom settings. Ministry of National Education reports that "42,000 schools and 570,000 classes will be equipped with the latest information technologies and will be turned into computerized education classes" in this project (Fatih Projesi, 2015).

Even if, FATIH offer great opportunities for Turkey to improve schools, there are some shortcomings for the application of FATIH and inadequate teacher training is among the important problems. Dr. Avci granted funding by her university for her project that aims to develop an emerging model for blended teacher professional development. It is proposed the findings and conclusions from the project not only might suggest solutions to the problems occurred during application of FATIH; they will also have implications for general knowledge base of teacher professional development. In the first phase of this project, it is planned to
develop a model as a result of an elaborate literature review about teacher professional development.

**Short Bio:** Zeynep Yurtseven Avci has completed her early education in Turkey. She graduated with Bachelor’s degree in Mathematics from Ankara University in Turkey at 2002. She has completed Master of Science in Ankara University Graduate School of Natural and Applied Science, and Master of Education in Gazi University Institute of Educational Sciences in 2005. She taught Mathematics to students from different grade levels for three years in Turkey. Dr. Avci received her Ph.D. degree in Instructional Technology from North Carolina State University in 2012. She worked as a PostDoc in the same university for one year. Dr. Avci currently has been working as an Asst. Prof. at Eskisehir Osmangazi University in Turkey. Some of her research interests are online tools, Web 2.0 technologies, internationalization, technology in mathematics education, technology in pre-service education, and recently teacher professional development.