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Title/ Título: Partnership & power: A study of prospective American & Polish teachers' thinking on school, family, & community partnerships / Panel: International Issues & Perspectives on Families, Schools, and Communities: Asia, Europe, and the U.S.

Colaboración y poder: Un estudio sobre el pensamiento de futuros profesores americanos y polacos acerca de la colaboración entre las familias, los centros docentes y las comunidades / Panel: Temáticas y perspectivas internacionales sobre Familias, Centros docentes y Comunidad: Asia, Europa y U.S.A.

Topic: Cultural, technological and multicultural aspects of school, family and community partnerships

Aspectos culturales, tecnológicos y multiculturales de las relaciones que se establecen entre las familias, los centros docentes y las entidades y servicios sociales comunitarios

Presentation time/Día de presentación: Session in English. Thursday 15, 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Conference Room, Ground Floor

Sesión en Inglés. Jueves 15, 4:00-5:30 p.m. Sala de Cámara, Planta Baja

Abstract

This study presents selected results of a study in which prospective teachers studying in a Polish and American university were asked about their ways of understanding school, family, and community partnerships. The results tend to suggest that both groups are deeply involved in discursive practices that reproduce power relations in their respective countries, which brings a question of their ability to play the role of agents of social change in their future work. The final conclusions will be perceived in the light of current social context that differentiates their previous presentation in the ERNAPE conference in Rotterdam (2002). Thus, discussion will be concentrated on the present challenges and the process of building bridges between the school, family, and local community.