The School of Education hosts a UNSW-wide assessment and evaluation research group, led by Dr Jihyun Lee and Professor John Bennett, with members including Prof Chris Davison, staff and PhD students from Education, Medicine, Business, the Learning and Teaching Unit, and Educational Assessment Australia, UNSW.

The primary goal of the group is to improve educational assessment processes and practices in Australia and world-wide through a range of research and consultancies, including:

- detailed case studies of effective policy and practice
- small and large scale collaborative action-oriented research and intervention
- the development of assessment tools and professional learning materials
- large scale survey research
- theoretical analysis and policy advice.

They also host practical workshops and guest lectures presented by leading national and international assessment experts, complementing their formal award programs and courses in assessment and evaluation.

**FOCUS**

**NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT**

Professor Chris Davison completed the research and development of a new school-based assessment system for the final three years of school for the Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority; oversaw the introduction of assessment for learning into schools for the Ministries of Education in Singapore and in Brunei; worked with PhD student Dennis Alonzo to identify and describe the assessment literacy of teachers in the Philippines; is currently leading a multimillion dollar research project with Educational Assessment Australia researching and developing a multimodal teacher-based assessment system for EALD learners in Victorian schools, funded by the Department of Education and Early Childhood (DEECD), the Catholic Education office and Independent Schools Victoria; and has conducted over 100 consultancies for educational systems in the Asian region, including Singapore, Laos, Vietnam, Taiwan, Indonesia, Philippines, Japan, Hong Kong, Thailand and China.

Dr Jihyun Lee has been involved in many international research projects with her research collaborators in the USA, UK, Singapore, and Korea. She led a research project funded by the Singapore Ministry of Education on confidence and assessment, and is undertaking on-going collaborative work with the Educational Testing Service USA investigating anchoring issues in large-scale assessments. With Professor Klassen in the UK, she is developing a situational judgment test for teacher selection in Australia, UK, Ireland, and Finland, and with Professor Jung in Korea, she is developing a measurement of school climate in Korean secondary schools. Dr Lee also provides research mentoring, as an external collaborator, to junior-level academics in Singapore on scale development of values of primary school students.

**PROGRAM**

Assessments and evaluation is a critical component of contemporary education both in Australia and internationally. Issues in relevant theory, policy and practice are explored through five distinctive areas of research:

- Assessment for Learning
- Teacher-Based Assessment
- Research Methodologies
- Large-Scale National & International Assessment
- Program Evaluation

**IMPACT**

This group’s research impact is recognised nationally and internationally, with members serving on international government and research committees as assessment experts, eg. Prof Chris Davison is an expert member of the group funded by AITSL to develop a Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial Teacher Education in Australia; Dr Lee is on the Editorial Review Board of the Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment and is a regular reviewer of a dozen journals including Journal of Educational Psychology, Learning and Instruction. In 2012–14 alone $3,000,000+ of research funding was received from national and international government and assessment agencies for research in this area.