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## MELBOURNE GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Shaping minds, shaping the world

# DEAN'S LECTURE SERIES 2010

### **The Perils of Policy: success, amnesia and collateral damage in systemic educational reform**

Presented by Professor Robin Alexander, University of Cambridge  
Miegunyah Distinguished Visiting Fellow

**Wednesday 10 March 2010**  
**6pm – 7pm**

Prince Philip Theater ABP Building (Building 133)  
The University of Melbourne, Parkville Campus.

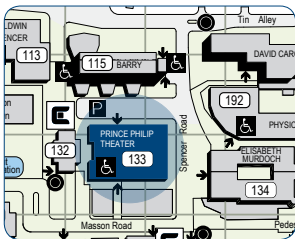
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PublicLecture



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# DEAN'S LECTURE SERIES 2010

## Professor Robin Alexander Lecture

In just two decades, England's school system has been transformed from one of the least centralised to one of the most centralised in the developed world. During the past decade in particular, the UK government has launched numerous initiatives aimed at raising educational standards. As levers of reform the UK Government has used high stakes testing and inspection, nationally prescribed teaching strategies, school league tables and micro-managed curricula for schools and teacher training. Efforts have also been made to import the policies and practices of those countries which head the international achievement survey league tables. Given that a similar reform trajectory is being followed by an increasing number of countries in the pursuit of 'world class' educational standards, the English experience provides a significant case study.

The independently-funded Cambridge Primary Review, the most comprehensive enquiry into English primary education for forty years, recently published its final report. Robin Alexander, the review's director, will draw on the review's evidence to offer a commentary on the English experiment in centralised reform, and will invite consideration of its lessons for Australian educators.

[www.education.unimelb.edu.au/news/lectures](http://www.education.unimelb.edu.au/news/lectures)



**Professor Robin Alexander**

Professor Robin Alexander is Fellow of Wolfson College, at the University of Cambridge, Professor of Education Emeritus at the University of Warwick, former President of the British Association for International and Comparative Education, and Director of the recently completed Cambridge Primary Review.

Free public lecture - all welcome  
Refreshments provided

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