

**SAVE
THE
DATE**

Monday, April 3, 2017

6:00pm | OISE Library, 252 Bloor St. W



Dr. Catherine Snow

Patricia Albjerg Graham Professor, Harvard Graduate School of Education

"Discussing our differences: Why we need more debates in our classrooms"

Research shows clearly that classroom discussion is related to student learning, yet it is remarkably rare. We have developed resources designed to support teachers in making discussion a normal and productive part of every student's daily experience. Word Generation is a set of curricular supports for language and literacy learning. Every Word Generation unit poses a dilemma, and offers students materials to help them learn about, think about, discuss, write about, and come to a personal position on that dilemma. The supported discussion activities generate high levels of student engagement. A large-scale evaluation of Word Generation showed positive effects on vocabulary, perspective-taking, reading comprehension, and writing skills. The findings helped us test an innovative theory about contributors to reading comprehension, and to make recommendations for changes that could improve student engagement and promote better student outcomes in any classroom.

