The increase of students with special education needs in classrooms at all instructional levels, from kindergarten through post-secondary, leads to more heterogeneous classrooms. All teachers are faced with the challenge of understanding and meeting the diverse needs of their students. My research focus is understanding teacher challenges and consequently, the education and training of education students and pre-service teachers. This presentation will focus on the results of two studies conducted in Canada and Germany. The first study is a comparison between German education students, pre-service teachers, and in-service teachers’ attitudes, self-efficacy and experience towards inclusion. The second study focuses on the same factors, but focussed only on pre-service teachers in Canada and Germany. Based on the findings of this research, recommendations for teacher education are discussed.

Light refreshments will be served.