

**UM Distinguished Visiting Scholar Seminar on
“Redesigning Urban School Districts to Support School
Improvement in the United States”**

Date: 29 May 2025 (Thursday)

Time: 10:00-11:30

Venue: E33-2036, Faculty of Education

Language: English

Enquiries: Mr. Harvey LO (Email: FED_Event@um.edu.mo / Tel: 8822-4593)

Speaker:

Kenneth King-Ho WONG is the Walter and Leonore Annenberg Chair of Education Policy and Director of the Urban Education Policy Program at Brown University. Professor Wong has conducted extensive research in education policy and school governance. He has authored or co-authored several books, including *Successful School and Educational Accountability*. His edited books include *Whole Child/Youth Development at the Center of Global Education Reform*. Professor Wong has frequently applied social science research to improve policy and practice. He was a key architect of the State of Rhode Island’s school funding formula. He is an elected fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration in the U.S.

Abstract:

About half of the public-school students attend schools in the largest 500 school districts in the United States. Large districts also operate 1/3 of the nation's public schools, employ 40% of teachers, and educate many low-income students, multilingual learners, and students of color. What are the challenges and opportunities in large urban school districts? Professor Wong will examine some of the promising district-wide strategies in the areas of governance, innovation, and human capital development. This talk offers an opportunity for Professor Wong to share his research and policy experience on issues of urban district redesign and school improvement.