Adam Gamoran

Title: Professor of Sociology and Director, Wisconsin Center for Education Research
Affiliation: University of Wisconsin-Madison
Recent Awards: Elected member, National Academy of Education
Country of Residence: United States

Adam Gamoran is professor of sociology and educational policy studies and director of the Wisconsin Center for Education Research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research focuses on inequality in education, improvement of teaching, and school reform. He is the author of numerous articles and chapters on these topics including, with Geoffrey Borman and Jill Bowdon, “A randomized trial of teacher development in elementary science: First-year achievement effects” (Journal of Research on Educational Effectiveness, 2008). He has also published 5 books, of which the most recent are two edited volumes: Standards-based reform and the poverty gap: Lessons for No Child Left Behind (Brookings Institution Press, 2007) and, with Yossi Shavit and Richard Arum, Stratification in higher education: A comparative study (Stanford University Press, 2007). Currently he leads two large-scale randomized trials on educational interventions: a study of teacher development to improve elementary science teaching and learning in 80 schools in Los Angeles, and a study of a parent-involvement program to enhance social capital and boost student achievement in 52 schools in San Antonio and Phoenix. Gamoran is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Education, and was a Fulbright Scholar at the University of Edinburgh and a visiting professor at Tel Aviv University. He recently completed service on the National Research Council’s Committee to Assess the Impact of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, and he currently serves on the Board on Science Education. He also chairs the Independent Advisory Panel of the National Assessment of Career and Technical Education for the U.S. Department of Education. As director of the Wisconsin Center for Education Research, he leads one of the oldest and largest university-based education research centers in the U.S., with a staff of close to 300 faculty, research scientists, graduate students, and support staff working on about 60 different projects, and annual expenditures of over $25 million.