

Contents

Part I Being, Belonging and Becoming: Child Image and Curriculum Reforms

1 The Centennial Change from Imitation to Innovation: Early Childhood Education and Curriculum Reform in China 3
Liyan HUO

2 Early Childhood Education and Care Curriculum in Japan 25
Atsushi NANAKIDA

3 Play with a Purpose: Creating Meaningful Environments with Children, Families, and Communities in the United States 39
James F. Christie and Kathleen A. Roskos

Part II Childcare Policies in Changing Contexts

4 Describing the Early Childhood Policy Landscape in the USA 53
Susan B. NEUMAN

5 Latest Development of Japanese Kindergarten Education Policy 61
Akiko Kimata and Yoshihide Kaneko

6 The Evolution and Innovation of China’s Preschool Education Financial System 83
Yingqi Cai and Xiaoxia Feng

Part III Best Practices for Early Childhood Teacher Professional Development

7 Early Childhood Challenge: Preparing High-Quality Teachers for a Changing Society in the USA 101
Martha A. Adler

8 Current Issues in ECEC Teacher Education in Japan 111
Kyoko Iwatate

9 How to Advance the Initial Training System for Chinese Kindergarten Teachers in a New Era 127
Minyi Li, Feng Deng and Liwei Liu

Conclusion 143