

Editorial

Dear Readers:

It is very exciting to welcome you to the newest version of the Canadian Journal of Education, now available on the Open Journal System. This system allows public access to the journal, which enables research findings to reach an unlimited audience in Canada and abroad. Everyone at CJE and CSSE has been working very hard this year to make the journal more accessible and user-friendly, while also maintaining and building the reputation of the journal. The Canadian Journal of Education is read in a multitude of countries.

In revisiting the goals of the journal this year, the CSSE board and CJE team aim to make the journal applicable and representative of a variety of areas within education, while welcoming a variety of methodologies. We want the journal to present the most up-to-date research and scholarship happening in Canada, as well as being open to international voices to allow us to communicate and share our work with the rest of the world.

This issue represents a variety of facets of education, from elementary to post-secondary, including a variety of subject areas, in both official languages. We cover a variety of methodologies, from quantitative to qualitative, as well as reflective and action research models. We have provided each abstract in both official languages of Canada, English and French, to allow maximum readership across the country and the world. We also provide reviews of French and English books.. These book reviews have been written by a variety of writers: graduate students, faculty, practitioners, and policy makers. We hope that the reviews will encourage you to look up these books and consider purchasing them for your libraries.

This issue includes papers on such diverse topics as community service learning as part of a college program, the link between risk behaviours and educational attitudes in youth, workshops for developing female involvement in local politics, the gender divide in undergraduate computer science education, and principals' issues in leading schools in the north. One can see the wealth of research that is being done across levels of education, including community and informal education environments. Gender issues continue to be at the forefront of many research endeavours. Participant voices are a valuable component of many of these papers, including the voice of the researcher. Application of findings to public policy and practice is another worthwhile outcome of many of these projects. The collaboration between researchers on many multiple-author papers, as well as the integration of public school, university, college and community programs, bodes well for the grounding of research in diverse perspectives. Finally the breadth of the Canadian cultural landscape can be seen in the variety of papers submitted from across the country. Yet the truth of each paper can be appreciated by readers across the country and around the world.

I am very impressed by the high quality of writing and the accessibility of each piece. Writers come from a variety of methodological backgrounds, and their voices can be heard through their

work. I am glad that this valuable research has been shared while it is fresh and innovative. I am sure every issue will bring new ideas and findings for all readers to ponder. Please share these writings with not only your academic colleagues but those in the public realm as well. The online accessibility allows anyone to read the journal, and we look forward to hearing responses from readers of all ages and interests. This journal aims to share ideas with those directly involved with policy and practice as well as theory, so we hope that pre-service and in-service educators, administrators, students, parents, public servants and members of the public will find its contents as interesting, engaging, and applicable as academics do.

We are aiming to process submissions as quickly as we can, pending peer review and editing. We rely on the generous time of reviewers across the country. We thank everyone who has agreed to review papers. Your contribution to the community of learning is tremendous, and your feedback improves the quality of papers and gives meaning to the concept of a community of scholars. Right now we have 55 manuscripts in the English review process alone. Manuscripts can be entered at the website: www.cje-rce.ca. When we receive papers, we read them to see whether they fit the mandate of CJE, pass them on to reviewers in the field, wait for reviews to come back, and then decide whether to proceed with publication. Revised manuscripts are returned to us and we then edit and format the documents for the next issue. We will continue to publish four quarterly issues a year online at this site.

We thank the efforts of the advisory board, consisting of representatives from all CSSE associations. We also thank the board of consulting editors. Francophone editor Dr. Stéphane Allaire has handled French manuscripts with great commitment, as well as facilitating communication among board members through the wonders of technology. Dr. Rochelle Skogan started editing reviews of French books a year back, and this is a great addition to the journal. Dr. Michael Bowen has been our English book review editor since 2010, finding reviewers across the country in various areas of expertise.

A special debt of gratitude as well to Julia Ellis, Sam Robinson, Georgina Saranchuk, Diane Favreau, and Kim Peacock for all of their hard work over the past several years. We welcome our journal manager, Christine Gordon Manley and translator, Gaspard Chabillan, to the UPEI team. We also thank Tim Howard, and past and present executive of CSSE, and the Universities of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and now Prince Edward Island and Université du Québec à Chicoutimi, for their support in hosting this journal.

I am enjoying the experience of editing this journal tremendously. It is such a great privilege to work with so many talented and interesting writers from across the country. It gives me a great appreciation for all who contribute to the field by serving in various capacities. By getting involved in the dissemination of research and thought, you all strengthen and unify the community of education research and scholarship in this country and worldwide. You also help spread research and ideas to society at large, and this may be our greatest accomplishment. Congratulations!

I look forward to meeting many of you at the CSSE conference this year in Fredericton. Please come to our workshops for academics and students, and visit our booth at the book fair and CSSE table. Please do not hesitate to send us your comments and suggestions for the journal. We are improving the site every day, and I am sure that the next issue will be even more accessible than this one!

One final note: we welcome responses to papers and reviews on the open journal system. We are very excited for the opportunity for readers to respond to what they read. We think this will allow the work to live on, and be a conduit for further discussion among interested readers and authors. We ask that you keep comments respectful and open to ongoing discussion, and refrain from adding commercial information.

Thanks again for the opportunity to work with this worthwhile endeavour and I look forward to your suggestions and continued support and contributions!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C DiGiorgio', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Carla DiGiorgio
Anglophone Editor
The University of Prince Edward Island

March 2011.

*Editorials will alternate between Anglophone and Francophone editors each issue.