

Editorial

Our Field is Changing: So is CJUCE

Walter Archer, University of Alberta

This is the last issue of CJUCE that will be printed and distributed in paper copy. As of our next issue (Spring 2010), this journal will become one of the more than 2,000 scholarly journals using the Open Journal Systems (OJS) publishing software. OJS was developed in Canada as part of the Public Knowledge Project (<http://pkp.sfu.ca/>) and is now used by journals around the world. The OJS software not only provides an excellent interface for readers to access the contents of journals but also provides many “behind the scenes” features of great value to the editorial team. CJUCE will be housed on the OJS server maintained by the library at the University of Alberta.

Former CJUCE editor Katy Campbell titled her editorial for Vol. 31, No. 2 (Fall 2005) “Implications of Open Access Journals for Professional Associations.” I won’t repeat that discussion except to restate the main scholarly and financial advantages of the move to a fully open, online-only format. The main advantage of moving to a fully open (no embargo period) and online distribution, from a scholarly point of view, is the vast increase in access and readership it will bring. The main financial advantage of discontinuing the print version is the cost of producing and distributing the journal will be cut in half, thereby freeing up resources for CAUCE to provide other services to its members.

As we begin this period of transition, I would like to acknowledge the support of the University of Saskatchewan, which has, for the past decade, generously hosted a website that makes CJUCE articles available in electronic form after a one-year embargo. That site has served to move CJUCE a major step toward true open and universal access. However, we now want to move another step forward and continue our evolution toward fully open publishing by taking advantage of the many useful editorial and presentation features of the Open Journal Systems.

Just as CJUCE has evolved during the 35 years of its existence, so too has the field of adult education, of which university continuing education is an

important part. The first Forum piece in this issue, "The Life and Death of the Canadian Adult Education Movement," by Gordon and Mark Selman, describes the long and eventful evolution of the social-movement aspect of adult education in Canada. Those readers who feel themselves to be working within the broad field of adult education will surely find much to think about in this obituary for a major social movement. It may also provoke some responses for possible publication as future Forum pieces. Do you agree that the adult education movement is dead, or nearly so, and for the reasons suggested by the authors of this piece? What do you think of the possibility, mentioned in their final section, of some sort of revival of the ethos that drove the adult education movement? And how do you react to the challenge presented in their final sentences: "I do not know whether this is a vision that is widely shared by practitioners in our field. If it is, we should do something about it."

Meanwhile, our own section of the broad field of adult education carries on and flourishes in many different ways, as illustrated by the three articles included in this issue. One of these is a look at the crucial relationship between the university continuing education unit and the president of its parent institution. Scott McLean's article, "Working with the President: Extension and Continuing Education at UBC, 1935–1983," analyzes the evolution of this relationship over half a century at the University of British Columbia. By coincidence, the first author of the first Forum piece in this issue figures prominently in McLean's article, as he served as director of Extension and later as director of Continuing Education at UBC from 1967 to 1974.

In marked contrast to this historical case study of university continuing education at a single institution, the other two articles are very broad surveys of the current state of continuing education in Canada. The study by Dale Kirby, Vernon Curran, and Ann Hollett examines what post-secondary institutions, including universities, are doing to meet the adult education and training needs of the Canadian workforce by providing non-formal learning opportunities. Despite the myriad problems that they (and other researchers) encountered in assembling meaningful survey data on this topic, the authors were able to identify themes from their own data that suggest courses of action for learners and for their employers, institutions, and governments.

The article by Maria Adamuti-Trache and Hans G. Schuetze is not quite so broad in scope, as it discusses only university continuing education. The authors made use of data from an already available source (the National Graduates Survey, 1995 cohort) to shed light on who, among university graduates, participates in continuing education and why they do so. Their findings should prove useful for the many readers of this journal who create and market university continuing education programs.

Finally, a word about the second Forum piece in this issue, “CAUCE Institutional Members’ Survey: A Snapshot,” by Lorraine Carter and Tracey Taylor-O’Reilly. Unlike other articles and Forum pieces in this journal, this item was not peer reviewed and is at heart a rather straightforward reporting of information. Indeed, it is more like the items that appear in the “UCEA News” section of the *Continuing Higher Education Review*, the journal published by one of our sister organizations in the United States. This “snapshot” of the concerns of CAUCE members was detoured around the time-consuming peer review process so that it could appear in this issue while it is still timely. However, we expect to create a special section for just this sort of informative but very time-sensitive item in the revamped version of CJUCE that you will access online starting with our next issue.

Watch for it!