A Last View from the Gates

Six years ago, when the editorship of the Journal moved from the University of Calgary to the University of Saskatchewan, it was anticipated that a difficult period lay ahead. The SSHRC publications grant had not been renewed, a special issue had been printed at no additional cost to subscribers, and printing and editorial costs were escalating. However, it was possible to continue publication by delaying the publication of some issues, changing printers, reducing font size and white space and by securing small grants from The University of Saskatchewan and Heritage Canada.

This was also a difficult time in general for adult education organizations and their publications as indicated by the demise of the Canadian Association of Adult Education and Adult Learning and in the south the financial problems of the American Association of Adult and Continuing Education and its decision not to publish one recent issue of Adult Education Quarterly.

Fortunately, last year CJSAE received a three-year publications grant from SSHRC and a postal subsidy which will allow production to return to its regular schedule. Further, with the reorganization of the Journal's Editorial Board, including the creation of the position of Editor-in-Chief and the transfer of the editorial office to St. Francis Xavier University with Allan Quigley as Editor-in-Chief, the Journal now begins a new phase in its development.

It remains to be seen whether the promises made by the Saskatchewan Editorial Collective have been met (A View from the Gates: Looking Inwards, Outwards and Onwards, Vol. 6[2]). Although operating under severe financial constraints we increased the number of manuscripts published in each volume. We worked towards keeping the gates open to authors whose work reflected the diversity of adult education research. I hope graduate students, women, foreign scholars and qualitative researchers in particular found their manuscripts to have been equitably assessed during the review process and that the Collective's editorial decisions were based on appropriate scholarly questions.

It only remains for me to express my appreciation to those persons who worked so diligently, frequently as volunteers, to produce 13 issues during our watch. Jeanie Stewart who was responsible for the technical editing of volumes one through ten and who served as Managing Editor for volumes eight, nine and ten, merits special recognition for her long term contribution to the Journal. Michael Welton who served as Anglophone Book Review Editor for the first ten volumes also deserves recognition for his long service. I also thank Deo Poonwassie who replaced Michael Welton as Anglophone Book Review Editor for volume eleven. The Francophone Editors we were privileged to work with were Nicole Tremblay and Paul Bouchard. The Guest Editors of two special issues who contributed many hours of work over periods of one and two years respectively were Madeleine Blais (Adult Education Research in Canada, Vol. 9[1]) and Gaetane Payeur, Marilyn Taylor and Catharine Warren (Feminisms in Adult Education, Vol.8[1]).

The role of Anglophone Editor was in our case played by five people. The Saskatchewan Editorial Collective, as we termed ourselves, included three graduate student associate editors—Madeleine Butschler, Kim Kennett and Naomi Frankel. Bob Carlson and myself owe a debt of gratitude to each of them. We were very fortunate to work with such professional and committed members of our editorial group. The Journal was well served over the years by its Editorial Board members and external reviewers whose names are published separately in this issue. Finally I thank my colleague Bob Carlson whose years of editorial and writing experience daily overshadowed my efforts. Producing a journal requires a team effort yet the strength of a journal ultimately rests on the quality of the work of its published authors. To the authors and to those researchers whose work we were not able to publish, I repeat, thank you for submitting your work to the Journal.

Adrian Blunt