



150 years from *Normal*

Education Insider

January 2008

- **Welcome** to the Winter Term 2008. We wish you the very best for the New Year.
 - We would like to welcome two new additions to the Faculty. Ms **Katie Whitehead** joins us as our new Development Officer. Katie has extensive experience in development and fund raising in prestigious institutions including the Children's Wish Foundation of Canada, Fondation Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal, and The Study School Foundation. Ms **Mahdiah Zamani** joins us as an Administrative Coordinator (temporary) in the Dean's Office. Mahdiah holds a BA in Geography and a Certificate in Environmental Sciences, and has worked as a project coordinator for Digidata Technologies in Montréal.
 - In recognition of **Martin Drapeau's** exceptional quality of work as a researcher in the area of psychology in Canada, he has been awarded one of the 2007 Canadian Psychological Association's President's New Researcher Awards. In addition to being an Assistant Professor with Educational & Counselling Psychology, Martin is also an Associate Member in Psychiatry with McGill, a researcher at the Institute of Community and Family Psychiatry of the Sir Mortimer B. Davis Jewish General Hospital and Project Director at the Lady Davis Institute for Medical Research. He has also been elected to the organizing committee of the 2008 Conference of the Ordre des Psychologues du Québec.
 - **Diane Mittermeyer** retired on January 1st, 2008. During her twenty-seven years at the School of Information Studies, she taught courses in Public Libraries, Children's Literature, Services, Marketing, Information Literacy, and Research Methods and coordinated the School's Practicum. In addition to these responsibilities, she served as President to both the Canadian Association for Graduate Education in Library, Archival, and Information Studies, as well as l'Association des bibliothécaires du Québec/Québec Library Association. She has also been an important life-long advocate for public libraries in Québec. Please join us in wishing her well in retirement.
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- **Lise Winer's** article "*No ESL in English Schools: Language Policy in Québec and Implications for TESL Teacher Education*" has been published in September 2007's *TESOL Quarterly (TQ)*. *TESOL Quarterly* is one of the most respected publications in second and foreign language teaching and this scholarly journal serves as forum for researchers, linguists, and teachers. As a peer-reviewed journal, *TQ's* primary focus is to link theory with practice and to address the practical concerns of English language educators. The contributors influence the development of the profession by bridging research, scholarly discourse, and practice. Each September *TQ* produces a special issue on current hot topic and this year *TQ* focused on Language Policies and TESOL: Perspectives From Practice.

- **Kevin McDonough's** paper titled "*The 'Futures' of Queer Children and the Common School Ideal*" will soon appear in a Special Issue of the *Journal of Philosophy of Education* (Vol. 41, Issue 4, 2007) whose theme "The Common School and the Comprehensive Ideal" is dedicated to the late Terence H. McLaughlin (Cambridge University/University of London). This particular paper focuses on an especially urgent challenge to the legitimacy of the common school ideal – a challenge that has hardly been addressed within contemporary philosophy of education and which arises from claims to inclusion and accommodation by queer people and queer communities.

- The **Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education**, in conjunction with the Association of Physical Educators of Quebec (APEQ), hosted their annual conference at McGill University on November 29, 2007. Each year this conference provides an excellent opportunity for physical education teachers and in-service physical education students to learn and share new and fresh ideas to improve the quality of physical and health education service delivery. Dr. Thom McKenzie, Emeritus Professor of Exercise and Nutritional Sciences at San Diego State University, highlighted the conference by providing the 4th Annual Jennifer Wall Keynote Address. The title of his presentation was "Increasing Youth Physical Activity: Thinking Outside of the Box".

Dr. McKenzie encouraged physical educators to be aware of non-school influences on physical activity and he reviewed contemporary research that explores community connections, including school location, active transport to school, community design, public parks, home environments, and family interactions. It was a wonderful blend of theory and practice that sparked the interest of 260 conference delegates. We were also fortunate to have an outstanding list of speakers who presented on current and relevant educational topics including a panel discussion on current issues in physical education and health, the Olympic hockey experience from the perspective of McGill Coach Peter Smith, McGill's new Right To Play chapter, web technology and eight strands of health, strength training

for high school students, orienteering, ultimate frisbee and a host of other physical activity learning opportunities. The Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education and the Association of Physical Educators of Quebec thank Professor Jennifer Wall, former faculty member, for her generous donation that made the keynote presentation possible again this year. The three previous keynote speakers include Dr. Judith Rink (University of South Carolina, U.S.A.), Dr. Louise Humbert (University of Saskatchewan, Canada) and Dr. David Kirk (Leeds Metropolitan University, United Kingdom). For more information about APEQ and conference photographs, please visit the APEQ website at www.apeqonline.net.



From left to right: Dean Jamshid Beheshti, Prof. Jane Wardle (ret'd), Mrs. Rebecca Wilson (APEQ president), Dr. Thom McKenzie, Prof. Jennifer Wall (ret'd), Dr. William Harvey, Dr. Gordon Bloom, and Dr. Enrique Garcia.

- The **School of Information Studies** welcomes their first post-doctoral research fellow, Emma Murphy, who started at SIS on December 1st for one year. She is working under the supervision of Prof. Catherine Guastavino in the Multimodal Interaction Lab on perception-action coupling in hearing and haptics within the project "Haptics, Sound and Interaction in the Design of Enactive Interfaces", funded by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (Special Research Opportunity grant). This project involves collaboration with different research groups at McGill (Centre for Interdisciplinary Research

on Music, Media and Technology, Centre for Intelligent Machines) and researchers from the 6th Framework European Network of Excellence "ENACTIVE Interfaces".

Emma just completed her Ph.D. in Human-Computer Interaction at the Sonic Arts Research Centre (www.sarc.qub.ac.uk) at Queen's University, Belfast. The focus of her research was to create ways of using non-speech sounds in Web interfaces to convey navigation and spatial information. This project was part of a larger Multimodal Internet Access Project, which aims to make the Internet more accessible to visually impaired users through audio and haptic feedback. She also received an MSc in music technology from the University of Limerick, and a BA in Music and Philosophy from Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland.

- As the launch date for the **Paulo and Nita Freire International Project for Critical Pedagogy** nears, Giuliana Cucinelli and Photi Sotiropoulos have started their next documentary film. To celebrate the opening of the Project, they are making a short film of interviews of the major founding figures in Critical Pedagogy. Last year they filmed Nita Freire and Donaldo Macedo, and last month they traveled to McMaster University to interview Dr. Henry Giroux in his home. Giroux is arguably the most noted early figure in Critical Pedagogy and now known internationally for his work in not only education, but cultural studies, critical media studies, and political and social theory. Interviewed by **Joe Kincheloe**, Canada Research Chair of Critical Pedagogy, Giroux discussed his early days with Paulo Freire and the founding of Critical Pedagogy.

The Project launch will kick off the EGSS conference on Thursday, March 13th, 2008, with keynote speeches by Freire, Giroux, and Macedo.

- The **DAUR Office** is looking for "ambassadors to represent the Faculty when traveling outside the Montreal area. If you would like to meet with our alumni for a coffee, lunch or small reception, please contact the DAUR Office, Jennifer.coutlee@mcgill.ca with details of your travel (dates and locations). They will be pleased to make all the arrangements.

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