



150 years from *Normal*

## Education Insider

March 2008

- We would like to welcome two new Professors to the Faculty.

**Professor Ted Milner** joins us as the new Chair of the Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education. Dr. Milner comes to us from Simon Fraser University and has an extensive background in neurophysiology, motor control and biomechanics. His principal research is in the understanding how the central nervous systems controls movement and mechanical impedance of the arms and legs and is interested in rehabilitation of impaired motor function after damage to the brain. He, along with his collaborators, has developed robotic devices for rehabilitation of hand functions after a stroke. His research and many publications make him a very welcome addition to the Faculty.

**Professor Aziz Choudry**, of the Department of Integrated Studies, joins us after stops at Concordia University and Queens College, Cambridge University in England. Professor Choudry has published extensively and is the recipient of several academic awards. Among his published topics are those on GATT/WTO, colonisation and the rights of Indigenous Peoples' to self-determination, New Zealand's neo-liberal reforms, worker's rights, multilateral financial institutions, the politics of aid and "development", the anti-globalisation movement, the post-Cold War role of security and intelligence agencies in monitoring and suppressing dissent, and other topics. His articles have been published in approximately 20 countries is Australasia, Asia and the Pacific, North America, and Europe and have been translated in several languages.

- Welcome to **Kathy Woo**, our new Faculty Research Accounts Administrator. Kathy joins the team of the Faculty's new financial hub, headed by our Financial Officer and comes to us with several years of experience working with McGill accounts and more importantly, research funds. She will be providing support to researchers with the management of their research accounts.
  - The Education DAR Office is delighted to welcome **Amena Ahmad** as Administrative Coordinator to the team. Amena is a recent graduate from McGill's Faculty of Management and brings with her a variety of fundraising and event planning experience. You can reach Amena at 398-1024 (Room 215).
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- The faculty welcomes **Kathleen Pithouse** as a Postdoctoral Scholar in the Department of Integrated Studies in Education and funded through SSHRC and the National Research Foundation of South Africa. Kathleen recently completed a Ph.D. in Education at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. In her stay at McGill University over the next year, she will be working with her postdoctoral supervisor, Professor Claudia Mitchell, joining the Partnerships for Change research team (David Dillon, Claudia Mitchell and Teresa Strong-Wilson). Kathleen's research interests include narrative inquiry, self-study, memory work, HIV & AIDS in education, curriculum studies, and teacher education.
- Congratulations to **Professor Victoria Talwar**, the recipient of the Faculty of Education's 2008 Distinguished Teaching Award. This has been a banner year for Dr. Talwar who just recently was awarded a major grant from the Canada Foundation for Innovation Leaders Opportunity Fund to create a state-of-the-art facility for her research on "The Truth Project: Promoting children's truth-telling in legal and applied settings". Her work has also garnered the spotlight in the media with a cover story in the February 18<sup>th</sup> edition of New York Magazine, television interviews on ABC's "Good Morning America" and TVO's "The Agenda with Steve Paikin" as well as a "Nightline" segment all featuring Dr. Talwar's work on lying in children. Dr. Talwar is to receive the award at this May's Convocation Ceremonies.
- **Dr. Bruce Shore and Dr. Mark Aulls** have had a new publication released. A two volume set entitled "***Inquiry in Education***" and subtitled "*Volume I: The Conceptual Foundations for Research as a Curricular Imperative*" and "*Volume II: Overcoming Barriers to Successful Implementation*", is published by Lawrence Erlbaum Associates as is currently available in bookstores everywhere.
- **Professor France Bouthillier**, Director of the School of Information Studies, has been chosen as the President of the Canadian Council for Information Studies for 2008-2010. The goals of the CCIS/CCSI are to speak officially for Canadian graduate library, archival, and information studies programs at national and international venues; to serve as a means of information, co-operation, and co-ordination among the graduate library, archival, and information studies programs in Canada; and to maintain liaison with appropriate organizations inside and outside of Canada.
- **The Education Graduate Student Society (EGSS)** hosted their annual conference on March 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> – sharing locations between the Education Building and Thomson House. The event was a great success with over 150 people attending the conference, including students and faculty members from across Canada and the US. This year's conference featured 41 unique presentations ranging from a full length theatrical

performance, film screenings, multiple paper presentations, panel presentations, workshops, round table discussions, and a full poster session featuring 18 graduate and undergraduate poster presentations. The diversity of the topics and participation from different departments celebrated the true interdisciplinary of the EGSS Conference and the Faculty of Education.

The EGSS was also excited to present two keynote presentations that reflect this interdisciplinarity. The conference activities kicked off with a lecture by Dr. Henry Giroux, on the topic “*Youth and the Politics of Disposability: Critical Education in the New Gilded Age*”. Our Saturday events began with a brunch and presentation by our keynote speaker, Fred Penner, renowned Canadian children’s entertainer. Both speakers provided insightful commentary on education from both theoretical and practical perspectives, reflecting the theme of the 2008 EGSS Conference “Making Education Count.”



Fred Penner, keynote speaker at the 2008 EGSS Conference

Dana Salter, Jessica Toste, and Thi Xuan Thuy Nguyen



- The **McGill Journal of Education** is pleased to announce the online publication of a special issue entitled “*The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Québec Ministry of Education and the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century*” guest edited by Stéphan Gervais. Bearing in mind the recent history of the 20<sup>th</sup> century in education in Quebec, this issue of the MJE looks to the future in the hope of identifying some of the new challenges presented by the 21<sup>st</sup> century for the educational system of Quebec. The issue will be of interest to anyone concerned with the challenges and issues in Quebec education after more than 40 years of strong leadership from the Ministry of Education. To see the Table of Contents, click <http://mje.mcgill.ca>

There is a limited supply of hard copies available at \$25 each. Please reserve your copy by e-mail to [ann.keenan@mcgill.ca](mailto:ann.keenan@mcgill.ca)

- Associate Professor, **Joan Russell** (DISE-Music), on sabbatical leave in 2007/2008, was awarded a grant of R19,000 by the Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq) of Brazil to be a visiting researcher in music education in Brazil. This was the first grant awarded in the field of the arts in the 20-year history of CNPq. Congratulations Professor Russell.
- Development, Alumni and University Relations (DAUR) has officially been changed back to **Development and Alumni Relations (DAR)**. University Relations is returning to McGill’s University Relations Office.

*Education Insider* is prepared by: Pat Jackson and Jamshid Beheshti

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