

Editorial

Margaret Kiley

New Horizons in Education provides a forum for introducing and examining educational practices and ideas in line with the aims of the World Education Fellowship and this November edition of the journal is no exception.

A peer refereed article by Bindi McGill titled *Aboriginal Education Workers (AEWs) and the role of 'values education' in remote Indigenous communities in South Australia* argues: "That Some AEWs on the Lands have been working in the school for twenty years yet their experience may not be recognised by non-Indigenous staff, particularly team-teachers with whom they work daily. The aim of 'values education' is to promote greater equality for groups such as AEWs who remain subject to hierarchies of domination that are perpetuated via western bureaucratic systems, and the ideology of individualism."

The article which follows, *Refugees and asylum seekers : Australian experience and policy* by Christine Stevens provides insights into this aspect of Australia's contemporary life. Stevens explains that unlike the previous experience in Australia where asylum seekers generally came from another country where they had originally been given protection, Australia is increasingly asked to give protection to people who seek asylum at the border or from within the country. This change in circumstance and rise in number of people applying for protection at the border presents Australians with considerable challenges.

These two articles, in addition to providing very interesting insights into aspects of Australia's social, educational and political life, also provide an excellent introduction to the UNESCO-APNIEVE-WEF international conference proposed for September 2004. The theme of the conference *Contribution to the Eradication of Terrorism—Educating for Peace, Tolerance, Shared Values and Inter-cultural and Inter-religious Understanding* almost seems to be designed explicitly to answer some of the questions raised by McGill and Stevens. As McGill states: "The source book, *Learning to Live Together in Peace and Harmony* (1998), demonstrates how values are used to develop greater understanding between cultures and how these values can be applied in cross-cultural educational settings." Hence, the proposal for the joint conference is very timely.

It is clear from the proposed conference and from the report from the South Australian Section that the Asia-Pacific Network for International Education and Values Education (APNIEVE) is providing a very stimulating collaborator for the World Education Fellowship. APNIEVE was established in 1995 with the major objectives being to promote and develop international education and values education for peace, human rights, democracy and sustainable development through inter-country co-operation among individuals and institutions working in these fields.

APNIEVE, which draws its basic philosophy from the original mandate of UNESCO, is composed of individual members and institutional members from both government and non-government sectors. The individual members are specialists, educators, teachers and students engaged in international education and values education for peace, human rights, democracy

and sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific, and others who are genuinely committed to promoting these areas of education. Further information about APNIEVE can be found at <http://www.unescobkk.org/ips/ebooks/documents/apnieve2/APNIEVECh1.pdf> and <http://www.unescobkk.org/education/aceid/apnieve.htm>

The Tasmanian Section reports that they have been addressing related topics with their William Oats Memorial Lecture in Hobart and Honora Deane Memorial Lecture in Launceston delivered by Professor Colin Power AM. Professor Power's topic: *Educating for Tomorrow's World: Opportunities and Dilemmas for Australia and Tasmania* addressed the topic of how issues of a global nature are influencing education issues at a local level.

Information is provided in the journal about three conferences, other than the proposed joint conference, in particular the World Education Fellowship conference in to be held in Mumbai in January 2004. Having attended an earlier WEF conference, also in Mumbai, I can strongly recommend this one. Judging from the program the conference content will be of great interest, and judging from previous experience the social events will be excellent! Further information about this conference can be found at [http://www.wefindia.org.in./](http://www.wefindia.org.in/)

Craig Sherrin's very interesting presentation to the Queensland Section has been revised for publication and provides insights into how Technical and Further Education institutes and schools can work together to achieve the aims of the *Education and Training Reforms of the Future*. From further education to early childhood education, a presentation to the South Australian Section from Linda Hale on *Catering for Boys' Needs in Early Childhood Education* drew upon the considerable interest with not just members of that Section but the Australian Council for Educational Research and their work on boys' education. An outcome of a recent project, directed by Dr Ken Rowe of ACER is the publication: Cresswell, J., Rowe, K. and Withers, G. (2002) *Boys in School and Society* Camberwell: ACER. To quote from information about the project: "The review of literature relating to the education of boys considers research evidence on trends in educational outcomes, teaching approaches that appear to be effective and programs that have been developed to enhance educational outcomes for boys. The review involves some integration of data analyses from previous projects and some secondary analyses of data from national databases." For readers interested in following up on issues related to the education of boys the paper can be purchased through ACER Press or downloaded from <http://www.acer.edu.au>

It was with great sadness that I learned of the death of Peter Henry, husband of the associate editor of *New Horizons in Education*, Margaret Henry. Margaret has been an enormous help to me in the short time I have been Editor and I extend my sympathy to her and her family. I had met with Margaret and Peter while in Brisbane in August and certainly appreciated the very close bond between them.

Following discussions, and in light of topics of interest within Sections, two themes are proposed for the 2004 editions of the journal. The first, for the June edition will be on science education and the second edition in November on child and adolescent development. You are asked to bring these two themes to the attention of colleagues with the request that manuscripts for refereeing be forwarded as soon as possible and certainly, for the June edition, by January 2004. In parallel with these two themes the journal will be featuring special articles related to the proposed international conference to be held in Adelaide and also reports on the Mumbai conference.

Margaret Kiley

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