

MAKING CHANGES FOR GREATER EFFECTIVENESS

Change is inevitable! Whether we are prepared for it or not, there comes a time when we must all reassess our situation and then take steps to maximise the impact of our resources. Nothing made this clearer to us all like the past two years when we were all coping with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The pandemic changed our environment in such a way as to force us to “do things differently”, whether we wanted to or not. It introduced adverse conditions that limited our movements, our social interactions and our ability to continue with business as usual. In many ways though, the pandemic opened our eyes to new ways of doing things; ways that force us to capitalize on the availability of powerful technology to improve our performance on our tasks and the efficiency of our operations.

Along the lines of change and improving our operations, the *Caribbean Educational Research Journal (CERJ)* has been examining itself to identify ways in which we can serve you better. The notion of change for the sake of improvement is not new to us. Back in 2019, just before the start of the pandemic, we took steps to revitalize the journal. We appointed a new team for two years to spearhead this venture and started publishing back issues to bring the journal up to date after a period of re-organisation. However, like other endeavours in academia, these activities were slowed as we learned to cope with the fall out from the pandemic. Now, as the global effort to reset our compasses picks up momentum, *CERJ* is taking steps to plot a course that would allow us to serve our community by continuing to produce academic works of high quality. One of the areas about which we are very excited is that of picking up where we left off pre-COVID-19 to streamline our operations using available electronic technology. We are moving to automate our entire publication process – submission of manuscripts, review, communication with authors re the outcomes of reviews, acceptance of manuscripts for publication and publication – conducted in a digital space. We expect this to shorten the time between submission and publication of articles. We look forward to your participation in this activity and welcome comments from you.

One of the features in which you will see changes almost immediately is our team. Some members of the existing team will be leaving us, while others are taking on new or clarified roles. But before we introduce the new team, we want to take the opportunity to thank outgoing team members for their service to the journal. Special thanks to the outgoing Managing Editor, Dr Grace-Anne Jackman, who almost single-handedly kept the journal going during our low period during the pandemic and to outgoing Co-Editor, Dr Patriann Smith, who joined the team when we needed a fresh perspective for moving the journal forward just before the COVID-19 pandemic. We also extend gratitude to Dr Smith for consenting to continue with the team as a consulting editor. We also want to thank the team members who are remaining and to welcome those who are joining us. The new team will comprise the following persons.

Editor	- Professor S. Joel Warrican (The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill)
Editor	- Dr Talia Esnard (The University of the West Indies, St. Augustine)
Consulting Editor	- Dr Patriann Smith (University of South Florida)
Managing Editor	- Dr Jason Marshall (The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill)
Associate Editor	- Dr Kisha Bryan (Tennessee State University)
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Associate Editor	- Dr Andrew Hunte (The University of the West Indies, Five Islands)
Associate Editor	- Dr Dave Louis (Texas Tech University)
Associate Editor	- Dr Alex Kumi-Yeboah (State University of New York)
Copy Editor	- Dr Coreen J. Leacock (The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill)
Blog Editor	- Ms Andrea Veira (The University of the West Indies, Five Islands)
Production Assistants	- Dr Chloe Walker (The University of the West Indies, Cave Hill) - Ms Andrea Veira (The University of the West Indies, Five Islands)

As we work to provide a world-class journal that focuses on educational issues that affect Caribbean people, we invite you not only to peruse our current issues, but also to visit our archives to see past issues. We also invite you to submit manuscripts to be considered for publication. We are interested in articles that are relevant to education of Caribbean people whether in the region or in the diaspora, as well as in comparative research linked to the region. We are still continuing with our Emerging Scholars initiative that provides a place for young/new academics to receive support to develop submitted scholarly papers to improve their quality where necessary. We are also inviting papers for our occasional section – Commentary: Perspectives on Education - where we will publish works such as scholarly opinion papers and text from public addresses or speeches that can provoke scholarly engagement with concepts of interest to the field of education.

We wish to assure you that CERJ continues to be committed to providing a forum in which academics can share their views and research on issues related to education and that are relevant to Caribbean people wherever they may be.

S. Joel Warrican
Co-Editor, *CERJ*