

Editorial

We are pleased to be taking over as editors of *History of Education*, and we are grateful to the editorial board for appointing us to this important role. We inherit from the previous editors, David Crook and Deirdre Raftery, a journal that has a worldwide reputation for excellence, and has achieved a leading position among journals in the field. Under our predecessors' editorship, the journal considerably improved its standing in the Social Sciences Citation Index, maintained by Thomson Reuters, reflecting the growing esteem in which it is held. *History of Education* has a global reach: in the past year, submissions have been received from more than 50 countries, and in volume 42 articles were published on England, Wales, Scotland, Sweden, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Finland, Canada, the USA, Ireland, Japan and the Canary Islands. This position is the baseline for our vision of *History of Education*: we are pledged to maintaining its core strengths and the international excellence that we have inherited, and to ensure that the journal continues to publish internationally excellent work from around the world.

It is our aim that scholars across the world continue to see *History of Education* as a journal in which they want to publish their best work. We are committed to maintaining the rigorous peer review process to ensure the highest standards of published work, and we are grateful to the many reviewers who give so much of their time to this important but often under-valued academic task. We hope to widen the chronological, geographical and thematic scope of the journal still further: there are comparatively few articles, for example, on medieval and early modern history, and some areas of the globe – much of Asia, for example – remain relatively under-explored in *History of Education*.

We embark on the editorship in a challenging period for academic publishing, especially in the UK but also across the world, as journals grapple with the implications of university budget cuts, the 'impact' agenda and the open-access revolution, among other things. In the wake of the Finch Report, open access has become an important issue in the UK which we will be closely monitoring over the coming years.

History of Education is the journal of the UK History of Education Society, and we value the close connection between Society and Journal. As usual, the last issue of volume 43 will be a special issue arising from the Society's annual conference, which in November 2013 was held in Exeter on the theme 'Politics, Professionals and Practitioners'. Likewise, the last issue of volume 44 will be a special issue emerging from the 2014 Dublin conference, 'Gender, Transnationalism and Teaching'. The possibility of further special issues is being discussed with the editorial board. We look forward to working closely with the executive committee of the Society, and with the editors of our sister publication, the *History of Education Researcher*. This is now edited by Rob Freathy and Jonathan Doney. Rob Freathy also remains the book reviews editor of *History of Education*. We are also committed to retaining the 'Sources and Interpretations' section of the journal, which was introduced under the editorship of Joyce Goodman and Jane Martin, and will continue to be edited by Cathy Burke.

We look forward to working with the editorial board of *History of Education* to advise us in our new role. We are sorry that the board has lost another former editor, Joyce Goodman, who has stepped down after giving many years of valuable service to the journal. We are grateful to Joyce for all the work that she has done for *History of Education*. Also in 2013, the untimely death of Kevin Brehony was a great blow to the journal, and to the discipline more generally. He will be greatly missed on the editorial board, and an obituary will appear in the journal in due course.

Mark Freeman
Tom Woodin
Susannah Wright