

Editorial: Injecting Energy Into Community House Building
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We are presenting *Other Education* as a newly minted journal. A fresh energy has arrived in the form of a team around Helen as the journal's founding editor because, frankly, she was getting a bit tired editing the journal mostly by herself (although Robert Hamm has been a great help over the years and remains with us as Editorial Assistant). It's a lot of work and a lot of time one invests in journal work and when that work is unpaid and costs its editor personal funds, one day she might just say "enough."

Well, it turns out the day she said that was exactly the day a team around the journal formed via the immediate intervention of Peter Gray, who said to Helen "Oh no, we need this journal." A renaissance began because stories emerged about how the journal is doing the work it set out to do. One rarely gets feedback in academic life. The silence can be deafening. So, to hear a journal has purpose, a role for the good, a vital place in an academic discipline (which, in fact, it also helped to develop) is a defibrillator. Arise Frankenstein's monster! Or, otherwise put, stay *Other Education* and help us speak the voice of education done without coercion into the world—for you, you, you truly do matter and your brute existence is existentially meaningful. Helen's personal dream that *Other Education* could serve a community and be that community's journal has come true. Now we build like never before so we can all gather in and to it. We need you. A team is not enough. Join us and spread the word that after a decade of life the journal is alive and kicking. Kicking butt? Well, gently. Slowly, kindly affecting educational realities.

Cue Gina Riley who has joined Helen as Co-Editor and brings to *Other Education* a much needed ultra-efficient attitude towards timely turnarounds. She also has a brilliant sense of humour, says Helen, as well as a superb understanding of the field. These women make a great team and it is frankly WONDERFUL to see women at the forefront of something in alternative education as arena which, increasingly, as its profile rose, has been noticed as being too significantly populated with male leaders and "missing women." Cue Ben Riley who has joined *Other Education* as its Journal Manager, meaning he is in the back office running tracking of actions taken and required and connecting up organisational messaging for Helen and Gina. It's like having a secretary, which many people long for. A very nice feeling

of support. Cue Caleb Collier, our Relations Manager, who is out and about virtually and in person making connections to the journal, stimulating submissions, and being friendly, welcoming, and informative. Cue Christy Malmsten and Maryam Vahid who together form the Book Reviews team. Cue Heather McTaggart who is running a Facebook page and will be managing that as a springboard for new people to dive into the work we publish, as well as increase our profile within the social media realm. We've started an Instagram account for *Other Education*, to join the Twitter account. Nice to have options. Cue a refreshed editorial board populated by a more ethnically diverse and more focused alternatively educationally research oriented gathering of academics who, together, have offered their active services to the journal as peer reviewers and guides in their relevant areas of expertise. We thank all those who previously were listed! We are still working on this fresh list. If you represent an area you feel we don't yet cover please do get in touch about how you might join us. We welcome that conversation immensely.

With this team we intend to stimulate each issue to bear a minimum of five peer reviewed articles per year. This is an important aspect of a bigger plan to jump into the open access pool of labels and badges of academic community "markings." Nevertheless, we are in no hurry. *Other Education* has never felt a need to comply or play status games. But, if it's good for us and our community we want to qualify. This move towards getting such badging will also give us stronger archiving abilities.

We hope that you will talk about *Other Education's* work among yourselves. We hope you will be inspired by our efforts and be motivated to submit your own interesting work and stories, as well as volunteer your skill sets to this community endeavour if you think you can help us thrive. We want to remain small because small is beautiful, it is manageable and it is easier for connecting up with people within and outside the journal in personally enjoyable ways—but we also want a big message to broadcast that we are YOUR journal. We are only YOUR journal if you own us with your support. *Other Education* has been caring about your alternative education voice for over 10 years. We appreciate support of whatever kind, which is, as a primary act, reading what the journal publishes. To do so is part of joining in with the field of alternative education as mattering.

Some financial support would also help us. We do get occasional contributions of a financial kind – sometimes as fees for services and sometimes as a philanthropic act. If you can spare money to support the real yearly costs of the journal's presence we would be thrilled by your generosity. We have a variety of material costs to bear as a journal such as hosting costs, security certificate costs and sometimes postage costs and we are using up *a lot* of volunteer time. If you'd like to contribute to the journal via financial support, please do get in touch.

As for your voice: Don't be silent. Whatever you have to say (as long as it is drama free) is interesting to us. Bring that part of you that has something to say to the party. Let us know of your presence somehow, let us hear you. We look forward to getting to know you and you getting to know us better—whether through your reading of the journal, your submissions, or other interventions in this new vibrant energy field we provide for your education and enjoyment.

Helen and Gina



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