

Notes from the Editor-in-Chief

Welcome to the 18th issue, volume number 1, of *New Waves-Educational Research and Development* (NWERD)! This volume is the third special issue that New Waves journal has published since the inauguration of the journal. The theme of this special issue is Service-learning and its integration into teacher education. Integrating service-learning into teacher preparation is a timely topic as U.S. schools are becoming increasingly attentive to their student populations with diverse learning needs. Service-learning experiences provide the opportunity for preservice teachers to have a better understanding of the needs of the local community and the children whom they serve through the engagement of community service activities. The articles in this issue represent research and perspectives from scholars in the field of teacher education who integrate service-learning into their various contexts and through different foci.

The articles comprising this issue focus on various types of service-learning in diverse communities that address the respective needs of the particular community as well as their relative impacts on participating preservice teachers. In addition, the articles address how the service-learning requirements are embedded into the different coursework in different teacher education programs. The types of service-learning range from helping children from grandparent-headed families in the State of New York to working with English learners in Nebraska to Early Childhood Centers in Illinois and to working with children and inservice teachers in Kathmandu, Nepal. In addition, the courses vary from a first-year multicultural education course to undergraduate and graduate content courses to specially designed coursework for service-learning. However, participants in each of the studies and projects reported positive impacts

and benefits from the service-learning activities as they relate to the course content they undertook and the specific communities they served. In addition, the two book reviews in this issue present timely resources for educators who seek more information on civics and service-learning. Clearly, this special issue contains a collection of research articles that will add substance and value to the discourse in service-learning and teacher education and contribute substantially to the literature in the field. In addition, the breadth of topics in this special issue should generate interest among scholars, researchers, as well as graduate students, teachers and community leaders.

My sincere appreciation goes to the guest editors of this Special Issue, Drs. Alan Bates and Miranda Lin, whose leadership and dedication in working tirelessly on this special issue yielded articles characterized by substantive quality, timeliness and relevance. I also applaud their passion in service-learning, which motivated them to propose this special issue to the New Waves Journal. My appreciation also goes to the editorial board members for this special issue who reviewed manuscripts for this special issue. Your expertise and insightful feedback help authors to revise and refine their respective manuscripts and enhance the issue's overall quality. Your contribution and service to the New Waves Journal are greatly appreciated by the Chinese American Educational Research and Development Association and all its members.

Finally, this is the last issue under my editorship as I have completed three years of service as the editor-in-chief of the New Waves Journal. In the past three years, the Journal began to publish two issue per year instead of one issue per year. In addition, it has also added a book review section to the journal and a book review editor to the

editorial team. Further, it has published three special themed issues, including math education, educational leadership and now service-learning and teacher education. As a result, the journal has increased its authors, reviewers and readers and has now been included in the Electronic Journals Library, OCLC-WorldCat, and Proquest data bases, adding to the visibility of NWERD, as well as our CAERDA community. I would like to express my profound appreciation to the Board members and President Lusa Lo for their enduring support of the NWERD

journal. I extend my sincere gratitude as well to the former Editors-in-Chief, Wen Ma and Chuang Wang, whose continued expert guidance and advice have been of utmost value to the sustainability and development of the NWERD journal.

Moving forward, Drs. Alan Bates and Miranda Lin will take over as the new co-editors of the New Waves Journal. I am confident that NWERD will continue to gain prominence as a refereed professional journal, and I wish them every success in the coming year!

Binbin Jiang

Editor-in-Chief