

ACCESS: Thirty years of academic publishing

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An introduction and brief history of ACCESS

This issue of ACCESS commemorates thirty years of continuous publication, no mean feat in today's world of changing research and publication practices. The idea of a special issue was to mark this moment by bringing together significant contributors to ACCESS during its history, to reflect on where the journal has come from and where it is going. This is a watershed moment in the journal's history as negotiations have been undertaken successfully with the Learned Society, Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia (PESA) to incorporate ACCESS with the highly successful journal *Educational Philosophy and Theory* from the beginning of 2014. The significant opportunities for ACCESS are further discussed below and also in Michael Peters' article "In Praise of Small Journals".

In 1982 James Marshall and Colin Lankshear established ACCESS at the University of Auckland, New Zealand. It was organised and published until 2001 by the Cultural and Policy Studies academic group at the University of Auckland, first as *Access*, then *ACCESS: Critical perspectives on education studies*, then *ACCESS: Critical perspectives on cultural and policy studies in education* with Michael A. Peters acting as the main editor during this period. From 2002 to 2008 it was published by the Centre for Communication Research at Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand, changing its title to *ACCESS: Critical Perspectives on communication, cultural and policy studies* and including research on communication with on-going reference to educational contexts. Elizabeth Grierson was invited to be editor in 2001; an international Advisory Board was established, and two previous editors, James Marshall and Michael Peters became Consulting Editors. In 2005 the journal migrated across the Tasman, with the appointment of Elizabeth Grierson, as serving executive editor, to the Head of School of Art at RMIT University. It was subsequently published under Elizabeth's management at RMIT. Scanning these last thirty years it becomes apparent that ACCESS has acted as a kind of scholarly barometer of the cultural policy and practice landscapes in New Zealand and Australia, and more broadly internationally.

A reflection from Michael

In the early years of the 1980s the journal focused around philosophy of education. The first decade from its establishment to 1992 saw some very fine essays by philosophers such as Ivan Snook, Linda Nicholson, Kevin Harris, Ed Brandon, Bob Mackie, D. C. Phillips, Mike Degenhardt, Felicity Haynes, Gabriele Lakomski, John Clarke, David Corson, Jim Collinge, Joe Diorio and the Australian co-authors Jim Walker and Colin Evers, who used the pages of ACCESS to theorise their new form of pragmatic materialism based on Quine. From the outset there were also able sociologists and historians of education who made major contributions: Eric Braithwaite on the notion of equality, the Massey sociologists—Richard Harker, Roy Shucker, Roy Nash—and Gary McCulloch and Roger Openshaw. In addition there were a number of other important threads in this conversation. A number of

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authors wrote on Maori education including Richard Harker (now Sir) Tipene O'Regan, Ranganui Walker, Pita Sharples (now co-leader of the Māori Party), and Linda Tuhiwai and Graham Hingangaroa Smith (perhaps their first publications written before they completed their PhDs). Colin Lankshear working with Eric Braithwaite introduced concerns of critical literacy and used ACCESS as a vehicle for examining "Education and Democracy in Revolutionary Grenada" a special issue edited by Rosa María Torres del Castillo. In this regard Colin Lankshear also introduced "The National Literacy Crusade in Nicaragua" and introduced the works of Henry Giroux and Peter McLaren on critical pedagogy and literacy to a New Zealand audience. There were a number of others who made contributions: the Marxists David and Janet Bedggood, Alison Jones, Eve Coxon, Viviane Robinson and Roger Peddie from Auckland University; and a series of now well-known academics from outside Auckland: Alan Luke, Peter McLaren, Susanne de Castell, Liz Gordon, Nena Benton, Tomaz Tadeu da Silva. It was quite a feat that a small journal could put in such well-known international scholars. What started as a journal devoted to philosophy of education soon opened its doors to sociology of education, increasingly bearing the imprint of Roger Dale, Susan Robinson and Dianne Snow in the early nineties; and, history of education under the guidance of Gary McCulloch, then explicitly to Maori and indigenous education, and, closely related, Freirean studies with direction from Colin Lankshear. Linda Tuhiwai and Graham Hingangaroa Smith edited "Kei hea tatoa e ahu ana?: Which way in education?" in 1989 prefiguring their important work on Kaupapa Māori; and Garry McCulloch, Roger Dale and Dianne Snow were responsible for two issues that rounded out the first decade.

In this period the issue edited by Eric Braithwaite on the Picot Report in 1988 stands out as deserving special mention because it represented a foundational approach to the massive policy reforms to education by New Zealand's Fourth Labour Government under David Lange as Minister of Education. It remains the first and most comprehensive discussion of that policy responsible for the restructuring of secondary education by a neoliberal Labour government.

In the early 1990s there were articles that continued the policy critiques in areas of early childhood education (Helen May) and higher or tertiary education (John Freeman- Moir, Michael Peters and Simon Marginson). Richard Harker and Roy Nash examined the case for Kaupapa Māori; David Hughes, Hugh Lauder and Robert Strathdee investigated "The Performance of Pupils from State and Independent Schools in New Zealand"; Linda Tuhiwai Smith and Eve Coxon edited a couple of issues focusing on indigenous education with contributions from Patricia Johnson, Russell Bishop, Judith Simon, Peggy Fairbairn-Dunlop, and Eleanor Rimoldi, among others. Amarjit Singh Dhillon, who tragically died in a car accident while on holiday in the South Island, edited a couple of issues on science and technology education with contributions from scholars like Joce Jesson, Patrick Fitzsimons, Robert Hola (from Philosophy), Elizabeth McKinley (on Māori science) and Mark Olssen. If I remember correctly this is around the time that I took over as editor organising the journal around a series of special issues including the issues by Amarjit Singh Dhillon; Freeman-Moir on universities; Alan Scott and John Freeman-Moir on Marxism in 1995; Brian Findsen and John Benseman on adult and community education in 1996; Patrick Fitzsimons on the NZ Qualifications Authority in 1997; Susan Robinson on intellectuals in 1998 (including contributions from Nesta Devine, Ruth Irwin and Ho-chia Chueh); Lucy Holmes and Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul on aesthetics and design in 1999; Lynne Eagle on human capital theory in 2000; Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul, Elizabeth Grierson and Janet Mansfield on art education in 2001. The facility of the special issue worked as a means of mentoring a group of talented PhD students who were completing their studies with me. The three issues on Marxism in the mid-1990s included notably the work of Michael Apple, who had become a regular visitor to New Zealand, Jean Anyon, Richard Brosio, Milton Fish, Tony Green, Rachel Sharp, Brian Roper and Gregor McLennan. These were among the foremost scholars in the field.

By 2001 I had completed my term as editor serving eight years, which came to an end because I had taken up a post at the University of Glasgow. I had an ongoing relationship with the journal as Consulting Editor and worked with Jim Marshall on an early issue on neoliberalism and the



knowledge economy in the year 2000, and in 2002 contributed my Macmillan Brown Lecture series, awarded by the University of Canterbury in 2000, with considered responses by Peter Roberts, Sharon Harvey and Mark Olssen. The very next issue was devoted to a monograph, *The Professionalisation of School Counselling in New Zealand in the 20th Century* by Tina Besley who completed her PhD thesis with Jim Marshall and Hans Everts at Auckland University on a Foucauldian approach to counselling. Tina and I met in 1991 while I was at the University of Canterbury and we married in Old Government House at the University of Auckland in 1996. Tina's thesis was eventually published as *Counselling Youth* (and republished by different companies) shorn of most of the New Zealand material on the professionalisation of school counselling as the basis for the 2002 monograph published by ACCESS. This indicates an important function for small journals, which is often the only place that local material finds a place for publication.

Elizabeth Grierson took over officially as editor in 2001 and held the journal first at the Auckland University of Technology and later the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology where she was appointed to her senior executive position of Head of the School of Art. With both moves the journal took different turns, first toward communication studies and then more centrally to accommodate art education and critical approaches to aesthetics and cultural studies.

A reflection from Elizabeth

The AUT years

The Auckland University of Technology years marked a new direction for ACCESS with the journal being published by the Centre for Communication Research and inclusion of "communication" in the journal title. The first issue under my editorship for 2001 brought together articles on digitisation and knowledge developed from a conference held at AUT in February 2001. This was a difficult time for me as in January 2001 my son Hugh had died and it was a mere five years since my son Campbell was tragically killed in a climbing accident. My paper "From Cemeteries to Cyberspace" in the 2001 issue was dedicated to my two sons. It took at least three years actually to get this issue to publication as it was rather superseded by the priority of the 2002 issues: Michael Peters' 2000 Macmillan Brown lectures with three response papers; and Tina Besley's monograph on school counselling. They were both very strong issues in term of scholarship and I felt honoured to have been given this material for ACCESS. For 2003 I worked with Michael Peters and Mark Jackson on a double issue arising from an AUT Summer School, "Technology, Culture and Value: Heideggerian themes", which remains to this day a significant resource for scholarship on Heidegger and technology.

In 2004 I invited Janet Mansfield and Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul to work with me on two issues for a themed volume, "Censure and Governance in Education: Policy contexts": the first focused on the politics of censure in teacher education with Janet Mansfield taking a leading role in the editing and selection of articles. Contributors were Roger Openshaw, Anne-Marie O'Neill, John Clark, John O'Neill, Joce Jesson and Brian Findsen. For the second issue, "Internationalism, Education and Governmentality", Tina Engels- Schwarzpaul and I brought together contributions from Mark Jackson, Andrew Butcher, Fazal Rizvi, Craig Ashcroft and Karen Nairn, and Jill Smith (working on a Doctor of Education at University of Auckland under my and Maxine Stephenson's supervision). For this issue Jim Marshall and I compiled the first version of a partially annotated bibliography of ACCESS 1982-2005, a valuable resource, which Michael Peters and I have since extended and updated for publication in the second issue of 2013 to mark the end of the present phase of ACCESS management.

In October 2004 Jacques Derrida died; I responded by sending out a call for papers and with Michael Peters edited a special volume for 2005. Judith Pryor, Mark Jackson, Janet Mansfield, Pamela Clements, Andrew Gibbons, Nesta Devine (now president of PESA), Heather Devere, Charles Crothers (now Head of School of Social Sciences at AUT), Maria O'Connor (then my PhD candidate

at AUT), Elisabeth Presa (from VCA Melbourne), and Michael Peters and I contributed articles to commemorate Derrida's life and death. Some had worked with Derrida and knew him personally. The volume shows the respect accorded to Derrida and his influence on contemporary thought and practice. I was working on the Derrida issue before I left AUT and it travelled with me to be completed in my first year at RMIT.

The RMIT years

In Australia the journal grew in strength to be validated within a few years as A-quality in the Australia Research Council journal rankings. Although the rankings system was short-lived it did serve a purpose of validating top quality journals and positioning ACCESS in that league. With the ever-increasing demand for research performance and accountability for high quality academic outputs the submission rate for the journal also increased following the A-grade rating. Scholars in Australia receiving funding from the Australia Research Council or other external sources for long-term research projects, and academic groups organising conferences and symposia have increasingly sought out ACCESS as the preferred publishing vehicle. In my role as Adjunct Professor at AUT I was supported to continue publishing the journal out of AUT for several years and we had a good team there. However, by 2009 the journal publishing and management shifted to RMIT.

The 2006 issue "Researching Women" brought a focus to academic women in New Zealand and Australia with a report on women in research commissioned by AUT, authored by Janet Mansfield and Shirley Julich, and edited by Jane Terrell, all from AUT. My response paper "Australian Academic Women in Perspective" provided an Australian perspective to the questions raised by the AUT report. It also sought to answer a question that perturbed me at the time. When I was appointed as a professor at RMIT I became one of only 16 per cent female professors in Australia. Why so few women? My research looked particularly at the under representation of women at senior academic levels, and the politics of career progression and research governance in higher education. The next issue in 2006 extended the scholarship on the politics of research, "The Politics of Globalisation, Research and Pedagogy" with Noel Gough (Melbourne) on governance of quality in higher education, Dominic Orr and Mathhias Paetzold (Germany) bringing a European perspective, Ruth Boyask (NZ, now in UK) on art education, Robert Jahnke on Māori visual arts and Janet Mansfield (both from NZ) on the teaching/researching subject, and my article on the politics of globalisation and knowledge.

For the two issues in 2007 it was fitting to extend the focus of ACCESS. The theme "East-West Intersections" widened the scope to include the post-colonial university from Michael Peters alongside the post-colonial city from Patrick Chan (PhD graduate in architecture and design from RMIT); research on mobile media practices from Larissa Hjorth (RMIT lecturer in media and communications) and on global cultures in art from Kristen Sharp (a new PhD graduate from RMIT and lecturer in the School of Art), along with a market-based model of higher education in China and New Zealand from Xiaoping Jiang (Chinese scholar who gained a PhD in NZ and lives in Mainland China). This was the first issue to include such a noticeable input from art and design related scholars and this gave encouragement to others in similar fields to submit contributions for future issues. The second issue in 2007 was built around communications and philosophy, with some impressive papers from a range of scholars: a substantial and beautifully written paper on Simon de Beauvoir from Jim Marshall (then in USA); a paper on critical discourses of pedagogy in visual arts from Dennis Atkinson (Goldsmiths, University of London); and three papers from RMIT scholars, on the philosophy of communication from Linda Daley, on Michael Serres from Linda Williams, and on media and religion from Peter Horsfield. From an editorial perspective I was very pleased with these 2007 issues as they addressed discourses of culture and communications as a rich field of research.

2008 was a bumper year with Richard Smith (then Nanyang Technical University Singapore, now Monash University Melbourne) and Bob Lingard (University of Queensland) editing a significant



double issue, "The Politics of Educational Research: International perspectives on research accountability and audit systems". The guest editors brought together articles on the research audit systems of RAE, PBRF, RQF/ ERA, by esteemed scholars in Singapore, USA, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Wales, Scotland and England, and as the editors write in their Acknowledgements, "this present volume is probably the most international in the ACCESS journal's over 25 year history". The volume was dedicated to Professor John Codd of Massey University Palmerston North, New Zealand, who passed away on Christmas Day, 2007. John was a much respected member of the Advisory Board of ACCESS, a true critic and conscience of society through his work in the practitioner field of teacher education, and a generous mentor for many scholars in New Zealand and internationally.

By 2009 AUT had relinquished the role as publisher and the journal was transferred to RMIT, the first issue being "Creative Arts in Policy and Practice", and the second "The Body as Object of Social and Political Analysis". The first arose out of the World Creativity Summit of the World Alliance for Arts Education, held in Taiwan in 2008. Adele Flood (Australia), Janinka Greenwood (NZ), Janet Mansfield (NZ), Susan Goetz Zwirn (USA), and I (NZ and Australia) addressed the arts in context of global economies of creativity and innovation. For the second issue on body politics and social regulation, Nesta Devine (AUT), Michael Peters (University of Illinois), Kim Senior (RMIT) and Mary Dixon (Deakin), Chris Hudson (RMIT), and Glen Donnar (RMIT PhD candidate) showed how ACCESS can accommodate a wider range of critical scholarship on cultural issues.

This continued through 2010 when I invited Kristen Sharp to join me as guest editor to collate papers from a Global Cities Research Institute symposium on *Art and Globalization: Urban futures and aesthetic relations*. It was the shaping powers of aesthetics that gave a particular focus to the first issue for 2010, "Aesthetics in Action", featuring Chris Hudson's work on the aestheticisation of the urban landscape, and another from Chris with SueAnne Ware on the transnational imagination, Les Morgan on diasporic identity, Kevin Murray on the polemics and of north/south trade relations, and Kristen and I both contributed papers from our research on aesthetics in the public sphere. Also for 2010, Maxine Stephenson (University of Auckland) as guest editor collated a special issue on *Histories of Education, Local/Global Discourses* filling an identifiable gap in the scholarship on educational histories. It was another international publication with articles from Joseph Watras (Ohio), Kay Morris Matthews (Hawke's Bay), Feliz Mes, eci Giorgetti (Istanbul), Gary McCulloch (a past editor of ACCESS, now London), Susie Jacka (Auckland), and a book review from Joce Jesson (also Auckland).

The two issues for 2011 both came from conferences: the first from the *Drawing Out 2010* conference held between RMIT and University of Arts London for which I was the co-coordinator, and the second from a conference on threshold concepts in education, held at University of New South Wales. The first focused on ways of communicating beyond the boundaries of, for example, knowledge, disciplines, and aesthetics to engage the discourses of drawing both in and beyond fine arts. Contributions came from Hélène Frichot (now Sweden) on Delueze and drawing, Mark Olssen (Surrey UK) on complexity theories, Derek Pigrum (Bath UK and Vienna Austria) on the "ready-to-hand", Andrea Ash (Darwin) on transmigrations across boundaries of art, Tom McGuirk (Chester) on a Heideggerian approach to drawing, Kim Senior (Melbourne) on writing and drawing at the interstices, and David Griffin (Toronto), drawing into space. Adele Flood from the University of New South Wales approached me to guest edit the second issue on thresholds and transformations. It featured work from NZ, Australia and USA: Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul with her PhD candidate Azadeh Emadi, Nicolas McGuigan with Sydney Weil, Lesley Duxbury, Carl Douglas, Maria Northcote with Daniel Reynaud, Peter Beamish and Tony Martin, Arianne Rourke, and Adele Flood.

This brings us up to date to 2012, with two issues collated simultaneously: one from guest editors Chris Hudson (RMIT) and Denise Varney (University of Melbourne), and Michael Peters and I collating and editing this present issue commemorating thirty years of ACCESS. Chris Hudson and Denise Varney were recipients of Australia Research Council Discovery project funding for a three-year research on theatre and performance in the Asia-Pacific region. For their special issue they

collated articles from speakers at two symposia in Melbourne and Yogyakarta: Ariel Heryanto (Australian National University), Barbara Hatley (University of Tasmania), William Peterson (Monash), Chua Beng Huat (National University Singapore) with Meisen Wong (Berlin Technical University), and Paul Mason (Macquarie University). The issue engages critically with cultural and political aspects of identity formation via performance studies, extending the scope of "communication, cultural and policy studies" as in the journal's sub-title.

Commemorative issue

In bringing together this commemorative issue for 2012, Michael and I invited short articles from past editors, significant contributors and present advisory board members. The brief was to speak directly to the publication history of ACCESS or involvement with it, or the politics of journals and journal publishing; this was extended by some writers to issues of contemporary concern in the cultural and policy landscape.

The articles collated here represent many threads of the journal's life and times. The issue is arranged in four parts. It starts with "Part I: Locating ACCESS", with personal reflections of association with the journal placed against policy environments of specific time periods. This introduction is included in Part I, followed by Gary McCulloch (an early editor of ACCESS, now University of London UK) who looks at the birth of the journal at University of Auckland in 1982 through to 1991, mapping a singular period of growth in critical scholarship on cultural and policy studies in education. Then Peter Roberts (University of Canterbury NZ) reflecting on his involvement with ACCESS in context of the policy landscape since the Fourth Labour Government in New Zealand in 1984, the opening of the economic market in the 1990s, the "choice" culture in education for the twenty-first century. He underscores the importance of the journal "in contributing to the kind of critical discourse that calls policy makers into account and poses alternatives to dominant modes of social and economic thought".

The four papers that make up "Part II: Locating academic publishing" address the economies of scholarly publishing by engaging critically, philosophically and practically on the matters at hand in the academic journal. It starts with Michael Peters (founding writer and early editor, now consulting editor, University of Waikato) writing on the academic article as a "dirty little industrial machine", considering the place of small journals, and reflecting on this journal in particular. Mark Jackson (Advisory Board member, AUT) provides a performative search for recognition of "access" and what is possible in the scholarly journal, through Derrida, Kafka and Blanchot. Noel Gough (La Trobe University) contributes a challenging piece on "open access initiatives" and academic "gatekeeping", raising the perils of peer reviewing as a governing process. Then Maxine Stephenson (Advisory Board member, University of Auckland), with her equally challenging article on the grave consequences that research performance governance can have on developing academics; she provides a sobering reflection on the peer review process when "experts" lose sight of ethical responsibilities.

"Part III: Locating the productive power of discourse" draws from Foucault to bring to the fore some of the key theorists with whom many writers in ACCESS have engaged over the years. It starts with a positioning paper by Jim Marshall (founding editor, now consulting editor, University of Auckland and University of North Corolina), in which the many "Foucaults" are brought forth in a way that reminds us of Foucault's prodigious contribution to the "systems of thought" in our time and the time of ACCESS. Through Jim's command of scholarship and profound understanding of Foucault many of us, now editors or contributors or board members of the journal, worked with or through Foucault in our own scholarship, in our PhDs or later writings. One such scholar is Tina Besley (Advisory Board member, University of Waikato) whose article shows her debt to Foucault as she "writes the self" through her academic work. Lynda Stone (Advisory Board member, University



of North Carolina) draws from the scholarship of Homi Bhabha to consider personhood and nationhood from the perspective of "an American, an outsider to the Australasian home of this journal", offering "a brief view from an 'other' on a current state of a nation-state". Her themes of history, culture and nation are timely as a new era of American politics begins with President Obama's second term in office. This section closes with Fazal Rizvi (Advisory Board member, University of Melbourne) who calls for a "critical appraisal of the conceptual framework within which the idea of Asia literacy is located", in context of the Australian Government's present attempts to reframe Australia-Asia relations. This is an important paper at a time when expanding trade links characterise the region and Australia becomes increasingly dependent on its Asian neighbours; and a new President for China, the world's second largest economy is announced—Xi Jinping will also take the role of General Secretary of the Communist Party and military chief: a leadership change that will matter a great deal to the Asia- Pacific region.

"Part IV: Locating force relations" (again a phrase from Foucault) begins with Tina Engels-Schwarzpaul (Advisory Board member, AUT), who combines her reflections of writing and editing for ACCESS with the political conditions of *access* to education where the othering of aliens is all too common. Brian Findsen (Advisory Board member, University of Waikato) analyses Adult and Community Education in "a resource- depleted sector" with specific concern for the Centre for Continuing Education in a harsh neoliberal environment. It is an all too familiar personal and political story of education in the market economy where "[t]he garden flowered for many years with radiance; now it is wilting awaiting a miracle gardener". This group and the issue ends with Elizabeth Grierson (editor, RMIT), who reflects on ACCESS as her "Marley" and uses the opportunity to scan some of the significant events in her academic life that have had a shaping affect in constituting her career and her-self.

Michael: looking to the future

ACCESS has undergone several changes of identity: two under my editorship and two under the editorship of Elizabeth Grierson. It is about to undergo another change in 2014 when it becomes part of the Philosophy of Education Society of Australasia's (PESA) journal publishing. PESA publishes *Educational Philosophy and Theory* and in 2013 changes publishers from Wiley-Blackwell to Routledge, an imprint of Taylor and Francis, going to twelve issues per year. As a monthly *Educational Philosophy and Theory* will become the most frequently published journal in this field in the world and its growth and success owes much to a very dedicated and loyal group of editors and reviewers. I am fortunate indeed to draw on these talents and the journal has accordingly gone from strength to strength. In 2011 Elizabeth and I began talking about the long-term future of ACCESS. After thirty years of publishing we wanted to assure ACCESS of a future.

After months of discussion we decided that I should approach our new publishers to negotiate the possibility of exploring content and infrastructure synergies between ACCESS and *Educational Philosophy and Theory*. The publishers were keen and committed Routledge to publishing two issues of ACCESS per year as part of *Educational Philosophy and Theory* under its own title with the prospect of using the same automated editorial office and infrastructure, and exploring possible synergies between the two journals in content and in relation to other journals, in matters such as circulation, subscription and distribution. Fittingly given its past ACCESS has been gifted to PESA. 2014 will be an exciting year as we work together to produce two journals with different orientations that will complement each other.

Elizabeth: Final comments

As the editor carrying the load and responsibility of managing ACCESS over the past decade I am relieved that the journal has found a secure home of quality and stature in the scholarly organisation

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PESA, and a publisher of equal quality and stature in Routledge. I thank Michael Peters for working with patience on our negotiations to achieve this positive outcome for ACCESS. In 2013 I will be producing two final issues under the RMIT publishing arrangement, which includes online distribution through Informit. These two final issues will cover a range of topics that fit the journal's mission for critical perspectives on communication, cultural and policy studies. Then in 2014 a new era begins.

Ten years has been a long time as solo editor and publications manager; I will not be sorry to say goodbye to the management aspects, and I am pleased to say I will be retained as editor under the new arrangements. Thanks to all contributors and reviewers over the past thirty years and I welcome new contributors who wish to become part of the ever- expanding ACCESS family of scholars.