

THE HOLISTIC EDUCATOR

Editors' Notes

Gary Babiuk and Susan A. Schiller



Dear friends,

We hope this message finds you all healthy, safe, and peaceful during these difficult times. Usually, we would be sending you a Spring Newsletter by now. Unfortunately, we are unable to do that this year for a variety of reasons, but we are making contact now to let you hear from us. As you know, Covid-19 has disrupted the world and education everywhere and all levels have been greatly impacted. When schools closed and students' homes became their learning site, we all adjusted to accommodate new demands and needs. Currently, high unemployment, high health risk, and inequitable justice systems create the call to activism for a better and safer world for everyone.

We plan on a Fall Newsletter if you send us announcements, articles, and other newsworthy commentary. We especially would appreciate hearing about how you have continued creating holistic learning environments and opportunities for learners. Pieces that address the special challenges we now face are welcome.

We are still currently seeking new editor(s) for the Newsletter. Anyone interested in moving forward in this role can contact us for discussion of this matter.

As we enter the summer months ahead, we are wishing you all good health, peace, and strength. Thank-you so much for being wise and caring educators. We are needed and we are valued.

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On a more personal note, Gary is retired, as you probably know; he has stayed safe at his northern home and maintained contact with numerous family members through regular zoom meetings. He actually has had more contact with them than before Covid-19, so that is a positive element in his life. Unfortunately, his computer malfunctioned in such a way as to slow the Newsletter production. Technical support from his university has been sparse until just recently. Since I am not yet retired, my teaching was heavily challenged when my university went to a completely on-line system starting the second week of March. Students were not allowed to return from Spring break and the campus closed to all. I still have not been back to my campus office. On-line teaching and learning was stressful for me and for all my students. To honor the spirit of holistic education, I created an “on-line transition bonus” that would decrease student stress over grades. To receive an extra 10% added to their final grade, students only had to attend our Webex meetings. This worked for 54 (out of 60 students) who chose to complete the semester. Fortunately, I live in a smaller rural town where Covid-19 has not been too active. Everyone I know has stayed safe and healthy. We practice social distancing and follow guidelines our Governor has suggested.

Sending you all love and hope for a happy summer,

Susan and Gary

Susan A. Schiller
schil1sa@cmich.edu

Gary Babiuk
gary.babiuk@umanitoba.ca



Attention

The organizers of the 3rd International Holistic Teaching Conference have decided to postpone the conference scheduled for this October 2020 to next year October 7-11, 2021.

For more up to date information please visit their HTLC homepage at

<https://centerforholisticeducation.org>



3rd International

Holistic Teaching and Learning Conference

October 8-11 (12), 2020

Sustaining Wholeness and Hope in Education

Hosted by the School of Education at
Southern Oregon University in
Ashland, Oregon (USA)

Watch for Conference Updates at:

<https://inside.sou.edu/education/holistic/index.html>

To be added to our contact list, email:

greenew@sou.edu or kimy@sou.edu



School of Education, 1250 Siskiyou Blvd., Ashland, OR 97520 USA

Call for New Editors for the Holistic Educator Newsletter

Hi all,

The years that we have served you by producing The Holistic Educator have been a pleasure and a joy, especially when we are together with you during conferences. We have appreciated everyone's feedback and participation to make the Newsletter possible. As you know, Gary has retired, and Susan plans to follow at the end of 2021. We agree that it is time to seek new editors for the Newsletter, and to this end we are looking into the future to make an easy and smooth transition for all involved.

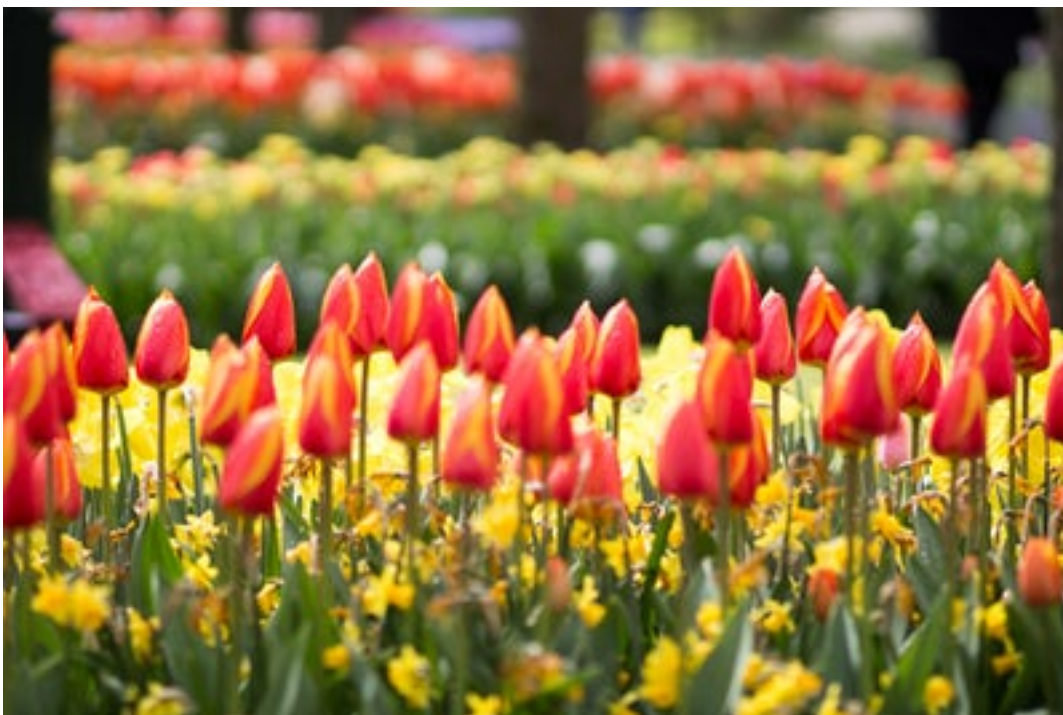
We are now seeking a new editor, either a single individual or two people who wish to collaborate as we have been doing. Applicants for this opportunity should have the following qualifications:

1. Knowledge of and connections to holistic education
2. Full-time employment in a University or College either in Canada or the United States, or both (as is the case with us).
3. A history of professional publications
4. Strong editorial skills
5. Technical support at their home institution
6. Willingness to attend relevant conferences for the purposes of growing, and networking with the Newsletter's audience.

We plan to attend the conference in Ashland in October 2020 and hope to meet with applicants at that time if possible.

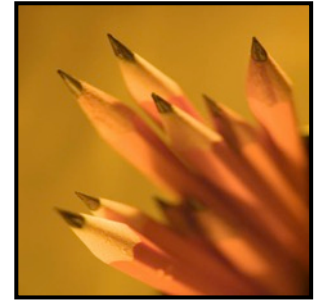
If you have interest in this opportunity to serve our community of holistic educators, please contact us as soon as possible. Thanks so much.

Susan and Gary





Announcements



1. Recently Published Books

The Holistic Curriculum, Third Edition
By John P. Miller

Originally published in 1988, *The Holistic Curriculum* addresses the problem of fragmentation in education through a connected curriculum of integrative approaches to teaching and learning. Tracing the history of holistic education from its beginnings, this revised and expanded third edition features insights into Indigenous approaches to education while also expanding upon the six curriculum connections: subject, community, thinking, earth, body-mind, and soul.

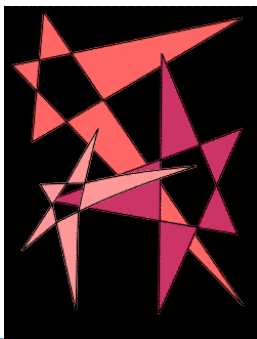
"The *Holistic Curriculum* is one of the most important education books ever published in Canada. The book is a classic and no one has done more to promote holistic education than John P. Miller. One of the many strengths of Miller's scholarship is the way he unites many perspectives from wide-ranging disciplines in his conceptualization of holism and holistic curriculum. He cites poets, political leaders, philosophers, and Indigenous teachers in order to explain holistic education in cogent and compelling ways. He was an early leader in this field and he continues to be the most significant education scholar in the world with a focus on holistic education."

Carl Leggo, Department of Language and Literacy Education, University of British Columbia

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1102678839183&ca=d8923993-eb7b-4325-a558-6243e25b6890>

Paper | 9781487523176 | 264 pages
\$42.95

2. Interesting Online Resources and Websites



A. Astralsite is an interesting website operated by Dr. Selia Karsten in which she will work with you to design a web portfolio. Check it out.

<http://astralsite.com/>

B. The Center for Contemplative Mind in Society



The Center for Contemplative Mind in Society (CMind) transforms higher education by supporting and encouraging the use of contemplative/introspective practices and perspectives to create active learning and research environments that look deeply into experience and meaning for all in service of a more just and compassionate society.

Go to - <http://www.contemplativemind.org/>

C. Mindfulness and Contemplative Education.



An Interactive Site for Teachers, Scholars, Researchers, and Students

The purpose of this site is to provide an international hub for scholars, researchers, teachers and students who are working in the rapidly growing field of contemplative education. Its purpose is to facilitate contact, information sharing, collaboration on projects, mentoring students and a range of other activities. Find it at

<http://www.contemplativeeducation.ca/>

D. Holistic Educators at OISE/UT - go to holistic website since 1995

<http://astralsite.com/holistic/holistic-OISE.html>

E. Classroom Resources

a. “Connecting the Dots” by Kozak and Elliott from Learning for a Sustainable Future (LSF)
Connecting the Dots provides rationale and teaching examples/ strategies that transform learning for environmental education, citizenship and sustainability.

The Strategies:

1. Learning Locally
2. Integrated Learning
3. Acting on Learning
4. Real-World Connections
5. Considering Alternate Perspectives
6. Inquiry
7. Sharing Responsibility with Learning



Curriculum can be retrieved for free from

http://www.lsf-lst.ca/media/LSF_Connecting_the_Dots_full_EN_web.pdf

***Other teaching resources can be obtained from LSF’s website including a monthly electronic Newsletter “Step Outside Nature Guide” that includes outside activities that you can do with your class in all seasons. It is also free of charge. Please go to the LSF website to get more resources and sign up for the Newsletter at <http://www.lsf-lst.ca/>

b. Natural Curiosity is another website with resources to help get our children outside. It has updated it’s main resource to include an indigenous perspective. Find more information at

<https://wordpress.oise.utoronto.ca/naturalcuriosity/>



Natural
Curiosity

The Importance of Indigenous
Perspectives in Children’s
Environmental Inquiry

3. Call for Submissions

The Holistic Educator is the newsletter for the Holistic Learning and Spirituality in Education Community of Educators. It is published bi-annually in an electronic format and addresses issues of interest to our community members. We welcome scholarly contributions, book reviews, and professional announcements from our members on any aspect of holistic education. If you would like to submit an essay or article of about 3000 words or less to be considered for publication in the newsletter, or any announcements such as call for papers or promotional material for programs, please send an electronic copy to Gary Babiuk, gary.babiuk@umanitoba.ca OR to Susan A. Schiller, Schil1sa@cmich.edu. For scholarly work, please follow MLA or APA style and include a works cited page. Be sure to give your institutional affiliation and all contact information.

4. Influential Reads

We are still accepting submissions. This column in the Newsletter offers a review of books that have significantly influenced the contributor's thinking over a period of time. We hope to make this a permanent feature of the Newsletter and invite you to send up to five titles of books that have impacted your life. Please provide an annotation of two or three sentences that will inform our readership of the book's contents. You are not limited to books about education. We simply ask that your choices have been important in shaping your life. Please send your reading list to Susan A. Schiller at Schilla@cmich.edu.

5. Growing our Community

We currently have approximately 200 members who receive the newsletter. We would like to double this number or even triple it if possible. This goal may be easily achieved if each of you recruits one or two people who share our interests. Please send us email addresses of friends or colleagues who have agreed to receive our newsletter. We will add them to our mailing list. Let's grow our community!

