

Editorial – English Language Editor

“Oh, Baby!”

For more than two years, the idea of an on-line academic journal to follow in the footsteps of its big sister *Avante* was only a gleam in the eyes of Physical and Health Education Canada (PHE Canada), and the Council of University Professors and Researchers (CUPR). It was librarian Tanja Harrison then at Acadia University in Nova Scotia, who brought the interested parties together for an on-line date that resulted in the launch of *PHENex/phenEPS* last April, at the National Conference in Banff, Alberta. Somehow, it does not seem like a coincidence that the gestation period for this journal has been nine months. And now PHE Canada and CUPR are very happy to announce the safe delivery of the first “made-in-Canada” bilingual open-source, peer-reviewed, on-line journal for researchers and theorists interested in pedagogical, cultural, social and historical issues associated with Physical and Health Education, Recreation and Leisure, and Dance.

The journal’s name, *PHENex journal/revue phenEPS* stands for *P*hysical and *H*ealth *E*ducation *N*exus/*ph*énix *E*ducation *P*hysique et à la *S*anté. We could not, when we had the opportunity, resist the chance to make reference to the phoenix, a mythical bird with the ability to renew itself as it arises from the ashes of its former self. This infant has joyfully sprung from *Avante*, and we hope we are able to incorporate the best of the old into the new.

If it “takes a village to raise a child”, then this baby may thrive and grow secure in the knowledge that it has access to an entire planet for its future development. Almost from the moment our modest announcements of the journal’s launch was sent to professional list serves spanning the world, manuscripts began to be submitted. More than 15 articles were considered in a seven month span for this round of publication. Nine of those submissions appear in this issue. A request for volunteer reviewers resulted in an extensive list of experts in pedagogy, kinesiology, and recreation and leisure from Canada, the United States and Europe, and some were put to work almost immediately to review the articles that had arrived on the editors’ desktops.

Learning how to navigate around an on-line journal has been somewhat challenging for a techno-novice like me. And I would have accomplished nothing if my ‘mouse hand’ had not been virtually held and patiently guided by the outstanding library and technical staff at Acadia University’s Vaughan Memorial Library (where the journal program is housed). Finally, the most brilliant decision made about the journal’s organization was to have three editors – an English Language Editor, an Éditeur Francophone, and a Managing Editor. Together Pierre Bourdeau (Éditeur Francophone), Susan Markham Starr (Managing Editor) and I (English Language Editor) have muddled our way through a sometimes rewarding, occasionally infuriating, always challenging, and ultimately fun experience. We hope you enjoy reading this issue. We can hardly wait to get started on the next one!

Ellen