

Report
Thomas B. Greenfield Dissertation Award Committee
Canadian Association for the Study of Education Administration (CASEA)

For the academic year, 2012, four digital submissions of doctoral dissertations were submitted by the deadline of January 20, 2013, for the Award. Submissions were from the Université d' Ottawa, the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (U of T), Western University, and the University of Manitoba. The four scholars put forward by their supervisors and/or departments were, respectively, Rodney Leurebourg, Amanda Cooper, Nora Findlay, Jeffrey Burwell.

This year's winner of the Award is Dr. Amanda Cooper of the University of Toronto; her supervisor is Dr. Ben Levin. The dissertation, consisting of four separate papers, traces intermediary organizations for the dissemination of research findings. Dr. Cooper's largely descriptive study, *Knowledge Mobilization Intermediaries in Education: A Cross-Case Analysis of 44 Canadian Organizations*, was selected for several strengths, including her thorough and innovative research design and the study's potential to stimulate further inquiry.

Letters, personalized to the contributions of each candidate, have been sent to each sponsoring faculty member. I expressed my hope that CASEA can soon welcome these new scholars to our organization.

As chair of the Award Committee, I wish to express publicly my thanks to committee members Janice Wallace (U. of Alberta), Sheila Carr-Stewart (U. of Saskatchewan), and Joe Flessa (OISE/U of T) for their timely and thorough readings and comments. The following recommendations to CASEA have arisen from our deliberations. We urge CASEA to:

- a) re-visit and revise the selection criteria which, at present, list categories of significance while failing to flesh out expectations. For instance, "conceptualization, design, and execution of the study" gives little guidance for the inclusion of (or failure to include) such areas as critical analyses, originality, and creativity.
- b) provide greater clarity re expectations for theoretical frameworks. The questions for CASEA arising from this second recommendation ask: Do we wish to call for *primary* literature sources, as well as literature that arises from primary work? Do we expect candidates to list a theoretical perspective with specificity? (Note: Perspectives are often simply "qualitative" or "quantitative" with little or no discussion of the philosophical roots of theory.)

In addition to thanking Committee members for their efforts, I wish to thank President Bonnie Stelmach for keeping us cognizant of the appropriate time-line and for steering us through the adjudication process.

Sincerely,

Carol E. Harris

Carol E. Harris
Chair, T.B. Greenfield Award Committee
Professor Emeritus, University of Victoria and
Adjunct Professor, Acadia University,
April 22, 2013