

June 03, 2021

Spring 2021 Report for the CJE/RCÉ Editorial Advisory Board

A version of this report was presented to the CSSE/SCÉÉ Board of Directors on June 03.

1. Introduction and Welcome

The Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) represents the constituent association of CSSE/SCÉÉ and ensures the Journal is representing its member associations' scholarly interests.

The CJE-RCÉ editors discuss any potential policy directions with the EAB and are guided by the EAB's recommendations.

2. Editorship

- Dr. Carole Fleuret has been re-appointed as the Francophone editor from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023.
- The appointment of Anglophone co-editors (Dr. Nancy Maynes, Dr. Blaine Hatt and Dr. Thomas Ryan) is from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2022. The co-editors are not seeking a re-appointment so the search will begin shortly. Dr. Maynes suggested a team of co-editors to manage the approximately 175 English submissions a year.

3. Special Capsule Issue

The bilingual special issue titled *African Canadian educational success/La réussite éducative des afro-canadiens* was published in 44(1) March 2021

Dr. Maynes made the following recommendations:

- Since the beginning of the pandemic, the editors reported a noticeable drop in the number of people agreeing to peer review. If the Journal puts out a call now for the guest editor, we might not receive many qualified applications. As the special capsule issue is published "from time to time", the Journal will wait until the pandemic is mostly over (when people's workload is more settled) before putting out the next call.
- The theme for the next special capsule could be along the lines of "Academic Lessons from Isolation".
- More quality control, from the CJE editors, on the papers published in the special capsule issue. Currently, the guest editor makes all the editorial decisions for the special issue.
 - The CSSE/SCÉÉ board suggested outlining the expected level of collaboration and guidance received from the CJE editors in the Call for Proposal and at the initial meeting between the CJE editors and the guest editor(s), so everyone is aware of how the editorial decisions will be made.

- Note from Sharon: Since it is proposed the editors will provide guidance on the publication of the special issue, we may want to wait until the next Anglophone editors are identified before putting out the call for proposal. The call usually has a 2-month application deadline with a production timeline of 18 months.

4. Partnership with Érudit

- The Journal's URL on Érudit is: <https://www.erudit.org/en/journals/cje/>. The Journal's content integration is being finalized.
- Érudit invited CJE to participate in a pilot Digital Object Identifier (DOI) project so all CJE publications will be assigned a DOI.
 - Sharon has sent details to Tim Howard to review

5. Submissions in 2021 (between 2021/01/01 to 2021/05/31)

64 English submissions

24 French submissions

88 total submissions

Average Days to First Editorial Decision	18
Average # Days to Accept	139
Average # Days to Reject	80
Acceptance Rate	20.93%
Rejection Rate	74.42%
Desk Reject Rate	41.86%
Post-Review Reject Rate	5.81%

6. Status of Active Submissions

- Total active manuscripts: 102
 - French: 34
 - English: 68
- Awaiting desk review: 7
 - French: 2
 - English: 5
- Awaiting reviewer feedback: 48
 - French: 12
 - English: 36
- Accepted: 47
 - French: 20 (manuscripts queued up to 45(1) March 2022 issue)
 - English: 27 (manuscripts queued up to 45(2) June 2022 issue)

7. Other Business



Meeting Notes

The meeting was hosted online by Sharon Hu, the managing editor. The following notes are based on the agenda item discussions.

1. Introduction and Welcome

The roles and responsibilities of the editorial advisory board

- Represent the scholarly interests of the SIGs and ensure they're reflected in the journal
- Managing editor and editors welcome input

The roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors

- Put forward recommendations from the advisory board, implement them, and present a report

2. Editorship (English)

The search will begin shortly. A call will go out in July 2021, and the hope is to overlap the outgoing and incoming editorial team, with the new team starting in January 2022 and the outgoing team completing their term in June 2022. The appointment process can take quite a bit of time, and the managing editor wants adequate time to on-board the new co-editors. Dr. Nancy Maynes (a current co-editor) suggests a team of co-editors. The editors need to go through many submissions (approximately 175 per year), and work with 20 articles and special issues every year, which is a heavy workload.

3. Special Capsule Issue (aka Special Issue)

Because of the difficulty getting reviewers, CJE may not get a guest editor coming forward, so the journal will wait until the pandemic is almost over before soliciting for a guest editor. To do so at this point runs the risk of the guest editors not getting the reviewing support they need. Also, the managing editor wants the editors to be more hands-on to ensure the journal quality. The journal will wait until the new English-language editors are identified (but not necessarily appointed) around January 2022, then a call will be put out for the special issue. It's possible to have a guest editor in place by December at the earliest.

The special issue is to be timely and relevant, and the advisory board discussed different possible themes. An issue on "Academic Lessons from Isolation", for example, would need to be implemented in 2022 and not 2023.

The guest editor would put together a proposal for the theme, identify the timeframe for review, give feedback, and move the special issue to publication. The current editors could also include possible themes when soliciting for a guest editor.

6. Status of Submissions

The editors are having difficulty getting reviewers. The managing editor attributes the difficulty to COVID-19: personal and professional stress, increased work responsibilities, etc.

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Hands, PhD.
CASEA representative on the CJE advisory board