

## “Notes from My Desk”

Anne Hickling-Hudson

**Profile:** <https://www.caribbeanstudiesassociation.org/dr-anne-hickling-hudson/>

**University Website:** <http://staff.qut.edu.au/staff/HUDSONA/>

After retiring in 2013 from the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in Australia, I continue as an adjunct Professor of Education in QUT’s Faculty of Creative Industries, Education and Social Justice, and keep busy with interesting work in education.

### 1) Editorial Work

I am a Founding Co-Editor of an international book series and online journal that feature postcolonial studies in Education. These research studies are of global significance in promoting analysis of education in countries that have been affected by European colonialism, utilising a theoretical context of postcolonial and social justice theory. Specific details are as follows:

- ***Postcolonial Directions in Education (PDE)*** launched in September 2012; ISSN: 2304-5388, see link: <http://www.um.edu.mt/pde/index.php/pde1/issue/archive>. I co-edit this online journal with Prof. Peter Mayo of the University of Malta. The journal is fully peer-refereed, published by the University of Malta, produces two issues a year, and is now (2021) in its tenth volume. In July 2021, we launched PDE Issue 10.1. (See <https://www.um.edu.mt/library/oar/handle/123456789/78247>)

We are now working to produce a Special Issue of the journal for December 2021. This issue, PDE 10.2, will focus on the socio-educational impact of Paulo Freire.

- ***Postcolonial Studies in Education*** published by Palgrave-Macmillan (See <https://www.palgrave.com/gp/series/14536>). I co-edit this book series with colleagues Professors Antonia Darder and Peter Mayo. Since 2009, the series has published 17 books authored by international scholars. Further titles are in press, the latest one being: Julio Cammarota (Ed.), *Liberatory Practices for Learning: Dismantling Social Inequality and Individualism with Ancient Learning* (Palgrave-Macmillan, 2021).

In its promotion of the use of postcolonial theory to analyse education in global context, this book series is a leader in the field. In 2012, one of the books in the series, *Actionable Postcolonial Theory in Education*, by Vanessa Andreotti de Oliveira, won a prestigious prize as the outstanding book of 2012 in the Curriculum Studies section of the American Educational Research Association (AERA), 2012 Conference held in Vancouver.

### 2) Writing Projects

I recently finalized my major writing project for this year, a chapter for the fifth edition of the popular scholarly book on Comparative and International Education edited by Robert Arnove, Carlos Alberto Torres and Stephen Franz. The reference is:

*Cultural and Pedagogical Inquiry*, Summer 2021, 13(1), pp. 80-82  
 ISSN 1916-3460 © 2021 University of Alberta  
<http://ejournals.library.ualberta.ca/index.php/cpi/index>

Hickling-Hudson, Anne, "Transforming adult and community education: A theory of literacies for analysing change in Grenada's revolution and after." In R. Arnove, C. Torres and S. Franz (Eds.), *Comparative Education: The dialectic of the global and the local*, Forthcoming 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, Massachusetts: Rowman and Littlefield.

### **3) Co-opted member of the World Council of Comparative Education Societies (WCCES)**

Having been a past President of the WCCES (2001-2004), I continue actively supporting its work of liaising with some 45 member societies throughout the world. As a co-opted member of the Council, I have been part of the team of colleagues assisting the President of the WCCES, Professor N'Dri Assie Lumumba of Cornell University, in her coordination of the production of two proposed edited books that will analyse how the field of comparative and international education is developing globally.

I have also been working with Professor Ruth Hayhoe, Chair of the WCCES History and Records Management standing committee, to organise the records and promote the history of the WCCES and its 45 member societies.

Another exciting project of the WCCES is to produce a series of biographical articles on leading scholars in comparative and international education, published in 'Global Comparative Education, Journal of the WCCES' (See <https://www.theworldcouncil.net>).

I have started working with Professor Eve Coxon, of the University of Auckland, to interview our colleague Dr. Christine Fox, a comparative education scholar-activist who for many years was a senior academic in teacher-education at the University of Wollongong and Secretary General of the WCCES. Christine Fox's biography is being prepared for a 2023 issue of the journal, while several other biographies are in the pipeline.

### **4) Member of the Australian Association for Caribbean Studies (AACS)**

I am the current newsletter editor and one of the founding members of this association, in which scholars and friends passionate about studying the Caribbean meet every other year in a conference hosted by various universities in Australia. There have been about 12 conferences. This October/November I will be assembling and editing items for the annual AACS newsletter. Only one newsletter issue is on a website, the issue that I edited in 2019, which can be accessed via this link: [AACS Annual Newsletter 2019.pdf](#) [bit.ly](#). The PDF files of other AACS newsletters are available on request.

### **5) Participant in the 'University of the Third Age' (U3A), Brisbane, Australia**

For the past couple of years, I have been an enthusiastic participant (and an occasional contributor of online presentations) in courses given by scholars who provide their expertise as lecturers in U3A, Brisbane.

In 2019, the courses that I attended were given in classrooms of the U3A building, by Professors Roger Scott and Ann Scott. Then in 2020, the bizarre lockdown year of the COVID-19 pandemic,

the classes morphed into online, interactive presentations via Zoom. So successful was the Zoom mode (combined with the excellence of the courses), that class numbers doubled. Zoom course delivery continued in 2021 since the U3A classrooms are too small to hold the current number of participants. In 2021, I added a course on 'Literature Out of Africa' taught by Ms. Catherine O'Donoghue.

I have enjoyed these courses discussing and critiquing the imperialist European empires and their aftermath in Africa and beyond. The course on 'Literature Out of Africa' is also a delight. This list gives an idea of the topics we have been studying over two and a half years:

- Southern Africa (South Africa, Rhodesia/Zimbabwe, Namibia).
- British imperialism in Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, Kenya and Botswana.
- The imperialism of the French, Germans, Belgians, Portuguese, Italians and Spanish in Africa.
- Decolonisation, studying the evolution of the British empire into the Commonwealth, and the widespread use of federalism as a solution to manage previous policy inconsistencies. Specific area studies include: Ireland, North America, Australia, Papua New Guinea, the Caribbean, and China in Africa.
- Literature Out of Africa, studying novels, essays and plays from Somalia, Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana, Sierra Leone and Senegal.

## 6) Supporter of 'Grenada - Forward Ever' Group

As a Caribbean teacher-educator, I was a contributor to educational change in the 1979-83 Grenada Revolution, led by Maurice Bishop. The revolution tragically collapsed after fratricidal conflict and an invasion by the USA of the tiny island (population 100,000). The '**Grenada - Forward Ever**' Group keeps alive the memory of the significant socio-economic changes brought about by the revolution. This year, the group celebrated the 42<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of the revolution with a well-attended international online conference, at which invited speakers, including myself, gave an outline of the achievements during the 1979-83 years. Highlights of the conference are summarised online at this site: <http://grenada-forwardever.net/archives/388>.

The '**Grenada - Forward Ever**' Group is also involved in the **Decolonising Education** initiative (<http://decolonising.cls-uk.org.uk/?p=45>) being currently organised by the **Caribbean Labour Solidarity** organisation, and this is a movement that I look forward to connecting with.