

## Editor's Message

Welcome to the third issue of the *Journal of International Social Studies*. We have three articles that address major concerns in a global society. Di Ryter considers how the United States can work to improve the participation of diverse cultural and ethnic groups in a democratic society by using a cosmopolitan approach to citizenship. In this approach the acknowledgement of the individual cultural and ethnic identities of immigrants and minority groups can establish a sense of inclusion into the national society. Jim Martin Weiler and Cassandra Juanita Martin-Weiler study university students in Ghana to measure their attitudes towards the teaching of HIV-AIDS in the schools of that country. They find that the students do have the knowledge, confidence, and willingness to address the HIV/AIDS problem, yet they do not. The reason, they argue, is that teachers do not have much incentive to address contentious issues in the classroom. In the final article, David H. Lindquist evaluates the coverage of the destruction of the Armenians in world history textbooks in the United States. This destruction at the end of the nineteenth century and the beginning of the twentieth century established that the 20th century would be known as “the age of genocide.” Lindquist critiques the coverage, identifying the overall flow of the information that is presented while noting several instances in which information is presented in an underdeveloped, confusing, or contradictory manner.

In the media review section Amy Killbridge describes the books and poems of Naomi Shihab-Nye, an Arab-American author, who advocates for more understanding between diverse cultural groups and for peace in the Middle East. In the IA Perspectives section editor Gloria Alter interviews Joshia Tlou, a member of our honorary editorial board, about his extensive work in international education and development in Africa.

It is with mixed emotions that I say farewell to my position as founding editor of the *Journal of International Social Studies*. As of September 2012, I will be stepping down and Ruth Reynolds of the University of Newcastle in Australia will be assuming the editorship. We welcome Ruth and look forward to her leadership in continuing the work of the journal.

Establishing the journal and setting it on a scholarly course has been both a challenging and exhilarating experience. Many people have supported me in this endeavor including the leadership of the International Assembly and the journal's honorary board. Gloria Alter of DePaul University, Carolyn O'Mahony of Oakland University and my colleague Sunghee Shin of Queens College/CUNY have offered valuable assistance. I owe the greatest debt, however, to my colleague Michelle Fraboni, who did the initial research to find a platform for the journal and recommended the Open Forum System maintained by Simon Fraser University. Thank you, Michelle, the journal wouldn't have happened without your research and diligence.

Beverly Milner (Lee) Bisland, Editor  
*Journal of International Social Studies*

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