

Early Years – An International Research Journal **Editors' Report to TACTYC executive meeting,** **June 20th 2020**

Editors – Carmen Dalli, Jan Georgeson, Arianna Lazzari and Rod Parker-Rees

Carmen Dalli (Victoria University of Wellington, NZ) formally joined the editorial team in January 2020 and she has already proved herself to be a great asset to the journal. Not only does she bring a wealth of knowledge, experience and contacts but she is also awake when the rest of us are asleep! As the journal continues to grow and academic workloads make it increasingly difficult to find time for editorial work, expanding our editorial team to four has enabled us to make the workload a bit more manageable.

Continuing growth

2020 is our first year with 5 issues. In December we will publish a double issue, Volume 40, 4 and 5, and we hope that this will help us to get accepted papers into print a bit more quickly.

In 2019 we received 114 paper submissions, compared with 110 in 2018 and 88 in 2017. We had already received 50 submissions by June 2nd this year. The online reach of the journal is also continuing to grow; in 2019 we had 160,000 paper downloads, up 20,000 on 2018.

Our March 2020 (40,1) special issue, 'Beyond gender binaries: pedagogies and practices in early childhood education and care (ECEC)', guest edited by Yuwei Xu, Jo Warin and Martin Robb, included 10 papers, making it our biggest issue yet.

We were also pleased to be able to negotiate changes to our publishing agreement with Taylor and Francis. These will mean that the journal will make an even greater financial contribution to TACTYC, allowing us to keep down the cost of membership while maintaining the range of our activities in support of young children and those who work with them.

Social Sciences Citation Index

In November 2019 we learned that 'Early Years' has been included in the highly prestigious Social Sciences Citation Index. This recognition reflects the impact of 'Early Years' papers through citation in other articles and other journals. In a climate of increasing pressure on academics to ensure that their work is published in reputable journals, this recognition will mean that potential contributors around the world will see 'Early Years' as a high status publication, hopefully encouraging even more submissions.

Forthcoming Special Issues

In December 2020 we will publish a special issue on 'Early Childhood Education and Care in Latin America', with Suely Mello and Monica Pinazza (UNESP, Brazil) as guest editors and in March 2022 we will publish a special issue on 'Building a competent early childhood education and care workforce in the Asia-Pacific Region', guest edited by Pamela Oberhuemer, Minyi Li, Mugyeong Moon and Yuwei Xu. Both of these special issues have had to be postponed because of the effects of the Coronavirus pandemic.

