Editorial March 2014

Transformative Dialogues Editorial

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The scholarship of teaching and learning is a growing movement on understanding the teaching and learning process and valuing the work of teachers (Boyer, 1990). It is also about making teaching public. There are numerous ways to make scholarship public through various formats: YouTube video or open access document, conversations, open houses, journals and other print media or other multimedia such as blogs that allow for peers to critique.

As the teaching community has tried to define the scholarship of teaching and learning there has been great debate on what is the scholarship of teaching and learning. Many academics have resorted to the traditional research tradition, valuing only empirical knowledge and publications. Issues such as what counts as knowledge and is colleague or peer review the only way to judge knowledge have been raised, but ignored by academics and seen as irrelevant.

These questions need to be discussed openly without privileging empirical knowledge because those who think on the fringes are often those who are creative and push others to view differently than the taken for granted practices of the academy. As well, these ideas help editors decide what may be included in a peer reviewed academic journal. Debates also help editors understand the mainstream thought and the spectrum of thought.

In reviewing submissions, Transformative Dialogues has continued to accept ideas from the fringes or edges. Some believe that allowing these submissions in some way degrades or devalues our journal. The editors believe, this wide range of ideas expressed by our authors, reflective thoughts to research articles, provides variety and allow readers to think and contemplate and dialogue with a range of ideas. The editors believe that all types of knowledge, including tactile knowledge, enriches the dialogue and opens up possibilities of thought, rather than degrades the journal. Therefore, Transformative Dialogues after considerable reflection has decided to remain a journal that accepts all types of submissions.

We would like to hear from you, our readers. What do you think should be published in TD?