

RESEARCHERS HONoured FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION IN CANADA

The Canadian Education Association (CEA) presented three CEA-Whitworth Awards for Educational Research in Winnipeg last October. Dr. Kieran Egan, Simon Fraser University, Dr. Bruce Sheppard, Avalon West School District, and Dr. Terry Wotherspoon, University of Saskatchewan, have been selected for their work in the fields of education policy, research and practice.




Dr. Kieran Egan, Dr. Terry Wotherspoon and Dr. Bruce Sheppard

Dr. Kieran Egan is well known in faculties of education, and his works, *Teaching as Storytelling* and *Imagination in Teaching and Learning*, are essential texts for teachers of children in the early and middle years respectively. His foundational text, *The Educated Mind: How Cognitive Tools Shape Our Understanding*, which outlines his theory of education, is at the base of several post-graduate programs in the meanings of education, curriculum, instruction, and learning in general. In his work, Dr. Egan is respectful of the historical cultural developments of all people, suggesting that concepts of education are dependent upon precepts of culture. His work has had a major impact on educational policy in Canada, the U.S., Spain, Portugal, South America, the Scandinavian countries, and more recently, in China and Japan. Dr. Egan is currently a professor at Simon Fraser University, where he has conducted research and taught since 1972. Before that time, he was an educational consultant and a high school teacher. Dr. Egan earned his Ph.D. in education from Cornell University in 1972; he previously attended Stanford University, Goldsmith's College (where he received a Post Graduate Teaching Certificate in 1967), and the University of London (where he received a BA in Honours History in 1966). He has received several SSRHC research grants over the years and was named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1993.

Dr. Bruce Sheppard's research contributions are well known, both nationally and internationally, by researchers and educational practitioners. His research and practice span from

K-12 to the post-secondary level. Dr. Sheppard conducted research in e-learning as a Principal Researcher with the Telelearning National Centres of Excellence. This research has contributed to the introduction of a new model of distance course delivery in Newfoundland and Labrador. He led the Pan-Canadian Professional Development Network for Teachers, 2000, a research consortium that developed a pan-Canadian professional development network for teachers. Dr. Sheppard and his colleagues were funded by the Newfoundland and Labrador government to conduct a review of provincial school improvement efforts, which contributed to the redevelopment of school improvement initiatives. They have also facilitated greater acceptance of participatory action research methodology, which has required a rethinking of the relationships between university researchers and school district practitioners. Dr. Sheppard was Associate Dean (Graduate Studies and Research) in Memorial University Faculty of Education (1998-2000). Currently, he holds the position of CEO/Director of Education at the Avalon West School District in Newfoundland and continues as an Associate Professor at Memorial University.

Dr. Terry Wotherspoon has been working in the area of sociology of education since the mid-1980s. In addition to teaching for several years at both secondary and post-secondary levels, Dr. Wotherspoon has engaged in research and published widely on issues related to education, social policy, and social inequality in Canada. His recent books include *The Legacy of School For Aboriginal People: Education, Oppression and Emancipation* (Oxford University Press, co-authored with Bernard Schissel); *The Sociology of Education in Canada: Critical Perspectives*; *Multicultural Education in a Changing Global Economy: Canada and the Netherlands* (co-edited with Paul Jungbluth); and *First Nations: Race, Class and Gender Relations* (co-authored with Vic Satzewich). In addition to teaching and writing, Dr. Wotherspoon is also involved in the educational community as a researcher, participant, organiser and leader. He has worked for organizations such as Saskatchewan Education, the Council of Ministers of Education, Canada (CMEC), the Laidlaw Foundation, and SSHRC. Dr. Wotherspoon is Head and Professor of Sociology at the University of Saskatchewan. He has Ph.D. in sociology from the University of Saskatchewan and degrees in sociology and education from the University of Saskatchewan. 

The 2002 CEA-Whitworth winners were presented with their awards during the CEA event, *Education and the Science of Learning: Literacy, Numeracy, and Lifelong Learning in Canada*, in Winnipeg, Manitoba, October 9-11, 2002.

Founded in 1891, the Canadian Education Association is a national, bilingual, charitable organization that advances public commitment to education by engaging diverse perspectives in finding common ground on issues that affect the well-being of all children and youth in Canada. For information about the Whitworth Award for Educational Research visit <http://www.acea.ca/english/CEA-Whitworth.phtml>