

## Editor's Introduction

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I remember as a young child accompanying my father to Presidents' Day parades on Market Street in downtown San Francisco: crowded sidewalks, little kids sitting on the curbs, marching bands that made your heart jump with anticipation, trumpets that held nothing back, people waving flags of all sizes, perfectly postured drill teams marching in precision, war veterans walking alongside dignitaries in cars that were inching slowly along the parade route. This pageantry could be distinguished from other holiday parades because while the other parades included floats and flowers, this one featured portraits of past presidents, accompanied by larger-than-life public officials, men and women who served the community and the country in various capacities.

There was also something in the air at these parades: it was a bouquet of pride, admiration, and inspiration emanating from the parade watchers in deference for the selfless, committed, courageous, dedicated individuals who walked before us. They were champions, people who made a difference in the way we lived our lives and saw our world. Upon their cloaks of experience, we placed mantles of hope and possibility to protect and guide them as they walked towards our collective future. Some of us would join the end of the parade to catch a little of their valor that wafted behind them. Although I am no longer that seven-year-old with

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a naive optimism for world peace that would magically arise through a combination of marching bands and courageous people, I do recognize and deeply appreciate the significant and noteworthy roles people play to lead us to better places.

In this issue of *Issues in Teacher Education*, we present a parade of California Council on Teacher Education (CCTE) presidents and affiliated leaders of our organization. They are teachers' teachers, policy makers, visionaries, problem solvers, public intellectuals, storytellers, minstrels, humorists, activists, and team leaders who were masters in the art of facilitation and collaboration as demonstrated by the great expansion of allied organizations. These were focused and committed leaders who were not afraid to make tough decisions and who worked tirelessly as partners to teachers and accrediting agencies to provide the best education to California's children. They helped CCTE to develop in ways we would not have known without their leadership. I know the quality of my professional life has been enhanced by the quality of these exceptional people.

As I conclude the introduction for this issue, I also enter my last words as editor of *Issues in Teacher Education*. These past five years have been truly a remarkable journey. I want to thank the members of the CCTE Board of Directors and the ITE Editorial Board, our managing editors, co-editor Joel Colbert, Alan Jones, and the reviewers for their support. I have fond memories of redesigning the cover, identifying an electronic infrastructure, welcoming practitioners as authors, promoting the journal on a national level, inviting doctoral students to serve as reviewers and managing editors, working with talented book and copyediting editors, reading exciting and innovative manuscripts, and finally, valuing the commitment of my dean to this organization. I have brought every conceivable resource to this journal, like those who have preceded me, but the journal's continued success is due to the collective interests and dedication of a scholarly community which had a desire not only to develop but also sustain a culture of scholarship within Cal Council.

It has been my sincere honor to serve you and to follow the parade.

—**Suzanne SooHoo**

*Editor*

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