

Editorial Greetings!

Patricia Morrissey, PhD

Center on Disability Studies (CDS), College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Aloha,

I am Patricia Morrissey, Director of the Center on Disability Studies (CDS), College of Education, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Since July 1, 2019, I also have been editor-in-chief of the *Review of Disability Studies: An International Journal (RDS)*. I really miss Dr. Megan Conway, our former editor, and Genesis Leong, our assistant to the editor. Both did a spectacular job helping *RDS* thrive for 15 years. Theirs' are big shoes to fill! Going forward I will be aided by Sandra Shitanishi, Tom Conway, and we hope to hire an associate editor soon. In the meantime, be patient with us. Genesis will continue working at CDS full time on our *PacRim, an International Conference on Disability and Diversity*, in its 35th year, at the Hawaii Convention Center in Honolulu, held March 2-3, 2020. I am sure Genesis will help us when the need arises.

We anticipate that 2020 will be a busy year. We will be asking our current pool of reviewers to extend with us through March 31, 2020. By then, we will send emails asking who wishes to 'reup' and also reach out to potential new reviewers. This extension will allow us to use our cadre of reviewers to get through and publish the March 2020 issue of *RDS* without disruption.

We are also exploring new platforms to host *RDS*. We want to find one more user-friendly to authors and CDS staff. Don't worry, when we transition to a new platform, www.rds.hawaii.edu will still work.

The current issue of *RDS*, I know, is a little late. It should have been published in December 2019. With the holidays and transitions, we weren't where we had hoped to be on December 31, 2019. The COVID-19 pandemic has also impacted our timing for publication.

With all that said, let me share some programmatic activities that will happen in 2020.

First, the June 2020 issue of *RDS* will be a forum issue devoted to developments in Asia. Dr. Robert Stodden, CDS' former director, will lead this effort with help from our able editorial board, Sandy and me.

Second, at the recommendation of Dr. Sona Hill from Ohio State, a member of our editorial board, as an experiment we will open *RDS* to authors who do not speak English and we will take on the task of getting their research articles and policy analyses translated. Then, their articles will be published in English and their native tongue. Initially, we will solicit one author of

this kind to be published in the fall 2020 issue. If the process and experience prove a success, we will then open up RDS to submissions from any non-English speaking submitters. Because this is a labor-intensive activity, we will publish only one article in this manner for each issue in winter 2020 and all four issues in 2021. After that, more may be possible. I believe this is a ground-breaking activity in our discipline.

Third, I plan to make my future editorials something for us to ponder, trigger exchanges with me, and perhaps be a basis of a blog post. My background is in disability policy at the federal level. I would hope my editorials will lead to discussions about how federal policies are reflected, from the disability studies perspective, on the ground.

Thank you and Happy New Year.


My Bio Brief

I was Commissioner of the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD) from August 2001 till January 2009. From 2004 to 2005, while serving as in that post, I was a member of the U.S. Delegation to a United Nations Committee while it drafted the Convention on Civil Rights for Persons with Disabilities.

Prior to that position I was a senior associate at Booz Allen Hamilton, providing consulting services to federal agencies, especially on accessibility in technology. I worked for the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions for five years prior to joining Booz Allen. I played a central role in the drafting major disability legislation – the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997, the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act Amendments of 1996 and 2000, the Rehabilitation Act amendments of 1998, the Assistive Technology Act of 1998, the Education of the Deaf Act Amendments of 1998 and the Ticket to Work and Work Incentive Improvement Act of 1999. I also worked for the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Education and Labor, also drafting disability legislation, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). I have written four books and assisted in the production of training videos on the ADA. After leaving the House committee staff before joining the Senate committee staff, I served as a consultant to Fortune 200 companies on ADA compliance.

I am a problem solver committed through varied venues and innovative strategies, to expanding opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

In addition to working at CDS, I am also the President of the U.S. International Council on Disabilities.

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