



International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame

Newsletter July 2025 (2/2025)

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A Note from the Editor

Dear members of the Hall of Fame,

This is the second newsletter I've had the honor to prepare as Editor, building on the remarkable work of my predecessor, Prof. Gary Miller. My aim is to continue celebrating the contributions of adult and continuing education professionals worldwide, while bringing fresh energy and perspective. Inside, this issue you'll find IACEHOF community updates, upcoming events on national and international levels, and highlights of inspiring work in our field. I warmly invite you to **share your news and ideas** as we grow this space together. Thank you for reading—and for all you do to empower learners.

Warm regards,

George Koulaouzides
Newsletter Editor

Executive Director's Welcome Note

Dear Colleagues and Friends,



As we move through the Summer of 2025, I want to thank each of you for the energy, wisdom, and commitment you continue to bring to the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame. These past months have been a time of significant reflection, steady progress, and renewed momentum. We are now entering the final stretch of planning for this year's Induction Ceremony, which will be held on **November 8** at the University of Oklahoma in Norman.

This will be a special occasion, not only because we are welcoming an outstanding new class of inductees, but also because we are returning to the birthplace of the Hall of Fame—a place whose roots run deep in the history of adult and continuing education. The OU home office is curating a rich and engaging experience for our guests. In addition to the ceremony and symposium, attendees will have the opportunity to explore some of the state's most notable cultural and historical landmarks. These include:

The **Sam Noble Museum of Natural History**, showcasing Oklahoma's ancient past and natural heritage.

The **Fred Jones Jr. Museum of Art**, a stunning collection of visual treasures just steps from the induction venue.

The **First Americans Museum**, offering a powerful and immersive account of the 39 tribal nations whose presence shapes Oklahoma's past and present.

The **Oklahoma City National Memorial & Museum**, a moving tribute to resilience and remembrance following the 1995 bombing.

And of course, the vibrant **Bricktown Entertainment District**, where you can unwind, shop, or enjoy a canal boat ride through the heart of Oklahoma City.

Whether you're joining us in person or participating virtually, this hybrid event is designed to bring our global community together in meaningful and memorable ways. As we prepare to gather, I also want to spotlight one of the most exciting developments in our communication efforts: the [Leadership Perspectives](#) blog, led by Dr. Gary Miller, Communications Chair Dr. Simone Conceição, Shannon Johansen (Home Office support staff), and Rachel Hopkin (Home Office social media support). Since its launch earlier this year, the blog has become a dynamic platform for reflection, dialogue, and thought leadership. With new posts appearing on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, it is already attracting a growing readership. Contributions from Hall members have addressed timely issues, enduring challenges, and emerging opportunities in our field. I encourage you to explore the blog and consider submitting a post. Your voice, your insights, and your experiences help to build the inclusive and forward-thinking community we aspire to be. I also want to acknowledge the outstanding work of our Development Committee and its chair, Dr. Janet Poley. The thoughtful recommendations presented by the committee to ensure long-term sustainability were not only heard - but they were embraced.

Under the leadership of our board chair, Dr. Tom Sork, and with strong commitment from our full board, and our home office, we plan on moving forward with actions that reflect these recommendations, including improved communications, improved technologies, and deeper financial planning. It was gratifying to see such alignment across our leadership, and I want to thank the committee members for their strategic guidance and continued commitment to the Hall's future. These efforts—planning a meaningful induction experience, expanding our platforms for exchange, and sustaining the Hall's core mission—are made possible because of your dedication. I am deeply grateful for the work of our Board, committees, volunteers, and supporters who continue to lead with vision and heart. Thank you for being part of this extraordinary journey. I look forward to the opportunity to celebrate with many of you in November.

With excitement and anticipation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Belinda Biscoe".

Belinda Biscoe

Acting Executive Director

Board Chair's Welcome



While many of us are currently surrounded—or at least battered—by political and economic chaos, the work of the Hall of Fame continues unabated. Since the last newsletter, the deadlines for nominating individuals and organizations for Hall membership and for applying for the Pappas Scholarship have passed and the respective review committees are now hard at work. Each committee will be submitting its recommendations for discussion and action by the Board at its late June meeting.

As previously announced, this year's induction activities—on **Saturday, November 8**—will be in a “hybrid” format with some inductees physically present at the University of Oklahoma in Norman and others participating virtually via Zoom. This is a first for the Hall so this induction will be a “test” of this format. We continue to hope that most

inductees—and other members of the Hall—will choose to attend in person to experience the unique character of the formal induction ceremony, to socialize with other inductees and current members, and visit the “home of the Hall.”

I remember well my induction in Norman in 2008 and the wave of appreciation that engulfed me as I wandered through the Hall, recognizing the many members whose intellectual, professional and leadership contributions built our field and influenced my own career. I hope new inductees and other Hall members who have not yet been to the “home of the Hall” can have a similar experience in Norman. More information about the 2025 induction will be circulated this summer. We are still working out details related to travel and accommodation for those planning to attend in-person and the technical details of those who will be inducted virtually.

The recently-formed Blog sub-committee—under the leadership of Gary Miller and Simone Conceição—has been busy at work scheduling a series of blog posts, drawn initially from the outcomes of the working groups that met at last year's conference in Florence, Italy. I encourage you to sign up to [follow the blog here](#). Past Chair, Éva Farkas, working with others, has been busy setting up webinars in collaboration with other groups, including the [PIMA Network](#). We will be circulating announcements about these events as they become known...in the Newsletter if we have enough advance notice or via email if not.

Another recently-formed committee—chaired by Larry Martin—will be focusing on refreshing/renewing the Hall of Fame website. Website designs and “best practices” continue to evolve, and we want the Hall's website to be as attractive, informative, and functional as possible.

A great deal of work involved in operating the Hall is carried out “behind the scenes” by University of Oklahoma staff, the Hall's various committees and others who do this work “off the side of their desk,” in addition to other responsibilities. By my count, more than 30 Hall members and OU staff are serving on various committees and otherwise working behind the scenes. I want to express my continuing gratitude to all those—named and unnamed—who contribute to the work of the Hall.

Stay tuned for more information about the 2025 Induction.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Sork', written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas J. (Tom) Sork
Chair, IACE Hall of Fame Board of Directors

News from HoF Members

Budd Hall (Hall of Fame Class of 2005) and **Rajesh Tandon (Hall of Fame Class of 2011)** have participated in two events celebrating fifty years since the first article on participatory research was published in the adult education journal, *Convergence* in 1975. Written by Budd Hall, the article proved to be a catalytic moment as Rajesh Tandon and Budd Hall launched the International Participatory Research Network in 1978. Participatory research and its various cousins participatory action research engaged scholarship and more began as marginalized approaches used by communities and social movements. But over the years participatory research has been taken up across multiple disciplines in the academic world. The two celebrations were held at the University of Victoria on April 24, 2025, and at OISE, University of Toronto on April 12, 2025.



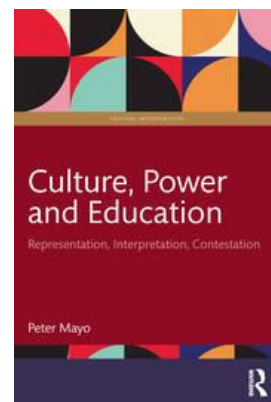
In 2012, Rajesh Tandon and Budd Hall were named as Co-Chairs of the UNESCO Chair in Community-Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education where they have had a focus of building research capacity for a next generation of young university and community knowledge activists. Their training work is done through the Knowledge for Change (K4C) Consortium (see <https://www.unescochair-cbrsr.org/what-is-k4c>). They have just launched a new book called *Teaching Community Based Participatory Research*, a transformative guide to help navigate complex power dynamics, address ethical considerations and integrate innovative arts-based methods into community based participatory research.

Thomas Sticht (Hall of Fame Class of 2013) an influential policymaker, consultant, researcher, and practitioner in adult education was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Coalition on Adult Basic Education (COABE) at its national conference in Dallas, Texas on March 31st, 2025. As an international consultant, Dr. Thomas Sticht has contributed greatly to the field of adult education. For 25 years (1979-2003) he represented the International Reading Association (now the International Literacy Association) as a member of UNESCO's International Literacy Prize jury. His additional contributions to adult literacy education include extensive research and development on the oral and written language skills of adults, diagnostic tests for learning-disabled adults, and the development of adult education programs that integrate the teaching of basic skills with career education. Perhaps one of Sticht's greatest contributions has been his research on literacy education for the U.S. Army on the listening and reading skills of lower aptitude recruits which resulted in the creation of the Army's Functional Literacy program, which integrated and contextualized basic skills education with Army occupational training and influenced the formation of the National Workplace Literacy Program of the U.S. Department of Education. For more information, please visit <https://www.coabe.org/awards-grants>.

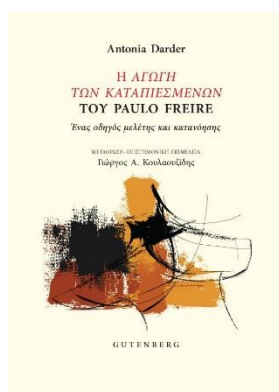
Hiram Fitzgerald (Hall of Fame Class of 2015) just published in the APA Handbook the following article: Fitzgerald, H.E., Smith, V. C., & Croff, J. M. (2025). Parental Substance Use and Addiction: Developmental Science and Pediatric Effects on Children's and Adolescents' Health and Development. In M.H. Bornstein & P. E. Shah (Editors-in-Chief). *The APA Handbook of Pediatric Psychology, Developmental Behavioral Pediatrics, and Developmental Science*, Vol 1. Developmental Science and Developmental Origins of Risk and Resilience (pp. 561-581). Washington, DC. American Psychological Association.

Simone C. O. Conceição (Hall of Fame Class of 2018) has been recommended for placement on the Fulbright Specialist Roster for a three-year tenure beginning April 18, 2025. This prestigious opportunity will enable her to contribute to global education while strengthening connections between the U.S. and international institutions. With extensive experience in adult education, online learning, and learning design, Dr. Conceição is eager to bring her expertise to the Fulbright Specialist Program. Her international teaching and research collaborations have fostered a global perspective that supports the development of impactful, reciprocal educational experiences across borders.

Peter Mayo (Hall of Fame Class of 2019), UNESCO Chair in Global Adult Education (University of Malta) organized a Webfest that celebrated the life, work and impact on education in Latin America of Gabriela Mistral. Gabriela Mistral (real name Lucilla Godoy Alcayaga) is a renowned Chilean poet and was the first Latin American to win the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1945. The meeting featured presentations from: Professors Carola Gabriela Sepulveda Vasquez (Chile), Sylvia Schmelkes (Mexico), Claudia Camicia (Italy) and Paolo Vittoria (Italy). They discussed Mistral's innovative approaches to education and her work with marginalised communities, The Webfest involved presentations on her educational philosophy and its connections to other educators, such as Jose' Marti. Also addressed was her spiritual legacy, despite her often being at loggerheads with the established institutional Catholic religion. She was well known for her denunciation of patriarchy, Western colonialism and Nazi-fascism. Spanish and English are the languages used in this event that you may access at: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uySDFZKRGi6yt5r4rOs2IZkdO1Xn-aiK/view?usp=sharing>.



Moreover, he published a new book titled *Culture, Power and Education*. This book delves into how knowledge is represented, whose voices are heard (or silenced), and how educational spaces become arenas of both conformity and resistance. It invites educators, researchers, and critical thinkers to examine the symbolic and material ways in which culture and power intersect within pedagogy, curriculum, and policy. Through rich theoretical frameworks and critical interpretations, it challenges us to rethink what education means in contested spaces and how transformative possibilities can emerge through dialogue, struggle, and critical engagement.



In June 2025, the *Student Guide to Freire's Pedagogy of the Oppressed* by Antonia Darder was published in Greek, offering a vital resource for adult educators, students, and activists committed to critical and emancipatory education. **George A. Koulaouzides (Hall of Fame Class of 2019)**, had the honor of translating this important work, which unpacks the dense and powerful ideas of Paulo Freire with clarity, depth, and passion. Darder's guide makes *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* more accessible while staying true to its radical vision. This translation adds to George's ongoing effort to bring foundational works in adult education into Greek, including books by Peter Jarvis, Jack Mezirow, Knud Illeris, and Ira Shor. At a time when liberatory education is urgently needed, this guide helps keep Freire's legacy alive and relevant for

Greek-speaking learners and adult educators.

Kimberly D Osborne (Hall of Fame Class of 2023) started a new job as **Director of Education** for Accounting Technicians Ireland (ATI) on July 1st, 2025. ATI is the leading professional body for accounting technicians, with more than 10,000 members and students on the island of Ireland. Founded in 1983, they provide nationally and internationally recognised accounting qualifications. For more information visit <https://www.accountingtechniciansireland.ie/>

Forthcoming Conferences and Other Events (in chronological order)



Dialogue in and through Adult Education and Learning

11th ESREA triennial conference

24th-27th September 2025 Charles University, Prague, the Czech Republic

Dialogue in society in general, in the field of education, and in adult education in particular, is a major topic of discussion. It can be linked to the question of responding to the changes in contemporary society, which for many good reasons can be characterised as a communicative society. However, the quantity, intensity and speed of communication do not guarantee the kind of communication that can lead to significant learning, social justice and a better life, nor do they guarantee the existence of the preconditions for the quality of deliberation that it has long been argued, is the basis for democracy and the development of genuinely responsive social institutions, including those involved in adult education.

The need for dialogue in today's world is reinforced by the growth of inequalities, the erosion of democracy, and the profound marginalisation associated with the impossibility of being heard and recognised. Alongside the persistence and also the reemergence of old divisions (between West and East, North and South, the privileged and dispossessed, between citizens and denizens etc.), we are witnessing worrying trends of polarization, division and violence, the shift from liberal to so-called illiberal democracy, and witnessing increasing conflict, war and the massacre of civilian populations. For more information please check: <https://esrea2025.ff.cuni.cz/>



International PIAAC Research Conference 2025

The fourth International PIAAC Research Conference 2025, funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research will be held from **30th September to 1st October 2025** at the Dorint Kongrtesshotel Mannheim. The conference will serve as a platform for sharing and discussing interdisciplinary research based on the Programme for the International Assessment of Adult Competencies (PIAAC). Papers and presentations will focus on comparisons among the 31 participating countries in PIAAC 2023, or subsets of thereof, comparisons between different population groups (e.g., by age, educational attainment or migration background), changes in adult cognitive skills compared with the first PIAAC cycle (PIAAC 2012), in depth analyses of populations at risk, relationship of cognitive skills to topics such as digitalization, well-being, skills mismatch, personality, or economic outcomes and recent advancements in PIAAC survey methodology and skill assessment. For more information visit: <https://www.gesis.org/en/data-on-adult-education/conferences/piaac-conference-2025/submission-and-registration>



Bridging the Generational Divide - Recognizing the Roots and Branches of the Field of Adult Education

Eduard Lindeman published *The Meaning of Adult Education* in 1926. This text serves as the seminal work that

has inspired almost 100 years of adult education. With this impetus, approximately 75 years ago, adult education formed this association from a confluence of related disciplines (including psychology, philosophy, and pedagogy). Like a variety of trees in a sustainable diverse forest, the roots of our field go deep. We are inclusive of many approaches, aspects, and varieties of educators – as seen through the multiple commissions in AAACE. AAACE serves as a nurse-log to grow and nurture the new generation of adult educators. By working together, we create a robust and flourishing ecosystem. During this 99th year of our field, I would like us to be both reflective and forward looking. With additions to our commissions and a new generation gaining voice, we recognize that the faces of adult educators in our organization and in the U.S. are changing. The theme for the 2025 conference is: Bridge the Generational Divide: Recognizing the Roots and Branches of the Field of Adult Education. To know the past is to prepare for the future. Understanding the generational influences on our knowledge and thinking helps us to see the cycles with eyes to honor accomplishments, heal past trauma, and make space for new traditions, ideas, and connections. Let's embrace the roots and branches, bridge the generational divide, and grow AAACE along with the field of adult education.

For more information please check: <https://www.aaace.org/page/2025-conference>

Critical Adult Learning and Education Conference 2025

📅 6-7 November 2025 📍 UM Valletta Campus

Organised by:

L-Università ta' Malta
Faculty of Education

Department of Arts,
Open Communities
& Adult Education

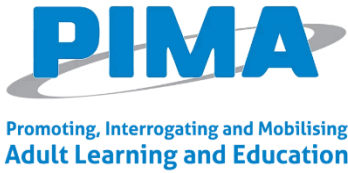
The UNESCO Chair in
Global Adult Education

unesco
Chair

Two years on from the first conference on Critical Adult Education and Learning which occurred in the context of the International Critical Education Conference (ICCE), a follow-up conference is being held **from 6th to 7th November 2025**. The *UNESCO Chair in Global Adult Education* welcomes academics and practitioners from different parts of the world to the 16th century largely Baroque city of Valletta for a conference on critical adult education and learning. In this age of rampant populism, blurring the lines between fact and fiction, supporting the rising militarization and collective and individual annihilation of peoples written off as 'disposable', the constant corporate encroachment on more public spaces, the onset of techno-feudalism and the reduction of education and learning to a barren technical activity, the need for critical adult education research and practice has never been more urgent. This conference would seek to explore antidotes to this baleful scenario through critique in the true sense of the word, combining criticism with the exploration of possibilities.

Useful Resources

PIMA Bulletins



PIMA (Promoting Interrogating and Mobilizing Adult Education) is a dynamic global network composed of educators, researchers, activists, and scholars dedicated to adult and lifelong learning. Officially incorporated in Victoria, Australia, PIMA brings together individuals and organizations from across the world who are committed to the transformative power of education throughout the life course. The network emphasizes the critical role of adult education and lifelong learning in achieving greater social, economic, and ecological justice—not only for individuals, but also for communities and societies at large. PIMA actively collaborates with a range of international partners, including the **PASCAL International Observatory** (<http://pascalobservatory.org/>), to advocate for inclusive and sustainable learning policies and practices. These collaborations aim to address pressing global challenges by promoting equity, sustainability, and active citizenship through educational engagement at all levels.

Among PIMA's key initiatives is the **PIMA Bulletin**, a widely respected, open-access thematic publication. The Bulletin serves as a platform for critical reflection and dialogue, where contributors from around the globe—many of whom are members of the **International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame (IACEHOF)**—share their insights, research findings, and personal perspectives. Each issue addresses either broad topics in adult education or focuses on specific themes, such as climate justice, intergenerational learning, or community empowerment, making it a valuable resource for practitioners, policymakers, and scholars alike. You may find more information at the following webpage: <https://www.pimanetwork.com/bulletins>



IACEHOF 2025 Induction Ceremony
November 8, 2025
UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
Norman, Oklahoma

Support the Hall of Fame

I wish my gift to be directed to the Hall of Fame:

Operating Account ☐

Endowment Account ☐

☐ I wish my gift to be split between the Hall of Fame Operating and Endowment Accounts

☐ I wish to donate my annual membership gift of \$100

☐ I wish to purchase a brass name plate for my mentor on the Mentor Plaque for \$200 which will hang in the Hall of Fame. Mentor's name/address: _____

Inscription (maximum 30 characters including spaces): _____

Memorial Gifts

☐ I wish to purchase a brass name plate in memory of _____ for \$200 which will hang in the Hall of Fame.

Inscription (maximum 30 characters including spaces): _____

☐ I wish to purchase a brass name plate for the Ed Boone Memorial Plaque for \$200 which will hang in the Hall of Fame.

Inscription (maximum 30 characters including spaces): _____

☐ I wish to purchase space on a larger plate for \$200 that will also list other donors in memory of: _____

Enclosed is/are my tax-deductible gift(s) to the International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Gift amount(s): _____ Check #: _____

☐ Please make checks payable to: The University of Oklahoma Foundation, Attn: International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame

Mail gifts to: International Adult and Continuing Education Hall of Fame, c/o University Outreach, Attn: Nina Barbee, The University of Oklahoma, 1700 Asp Avenue, Room 111, Norman, OK 73072 US.

Credit Card: Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Gifts of Cash Via Wire Transfer: www.oufoundation.org/portal/Giving/Wire-Transfers

International:

Bank Name: Bank of Oklahoma

Account Name: University of Oklahoma Foundation

Account Number: 814031844

Swift/BIC: BAOKUS44

Domestic:

Bank Name: Bank of Oklahoma

Account Name: University of Oklahoma Foundation

Account Number: 814031844

Routing Number: 10390003

