Editor’s Introduction to the 40th Issue of the Canadian Journal of Higher Education

Volume 41, Number 1 marks the 40th anniversary of the Canadian Journal of Higher Education. The first issue, under the name of STOA, can be found on the CJHE website. With the generous assistance of the University of British librarians and their new Digital Initiatives unit, we are in the process of scanning all of the back issues and uploading them to the CJHE website.

The idea for a Canadian journal of higher education was envisioned at the January 1969 meeting of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. At that meeting, 50 individuals interested in the topic of higher education in Canada met and “among the suggestions made during that evening was that we should investigate the possibility of establishing a journal of higher education to serve as a medium for articles and research emanating from these many sources” (Sheffield, 1970, p. 4). By April of the same year, a subcommittee, led by Robin Harris, continued to develop plans for a journal. The first issue of STOA, the publication of the newly founded Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education, was published in 1971. In 1974 (Volume 5, Number 1) the name of the journal was changed to the Canadian Journal of Higher Education.

Today, the Canadian Journal of Higher Education takes its place among other open access journals. The editorial team of the CJHE and the board of the CSSHE are committed to ensuring that research in higher education published in the CJHE is freely available worldwide.

To commemorate this 40th anniversary issue, I have invited Charles Pascal – a founding member of the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education – to reflect back on the inception and progress of the Society. His article follows this introduction.

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Editor