

Note from the Editor – Volume 3, Number 1, Fall 2016

With the publication of Volume 3, Number 1, *Journal of Narrative Politics* is now entering its third year. It seems an opportune time to begin examining what is now becoming *JNP*'s history. The journal began as a collaboration between participants at a SSHRC-funded York University workshop in 2012 on autoethnographic, autobiographical, and other forms of narrative methods in International Relations. We assembled an Associate Editorial Board comprised of myself, Naeem Inayatullah, Richard Jackson, Oded Löwenheim, Annick T.R. Wibben, Jenny Edkins, and Narendran Kumarakulasingam – scholars who were committed to various kinds of narrative forms and who offered energy and insights in those early months of waiting to see if the journal would strike a chord in the field or whether the thing would crash and burn. We didn't know what was going to happen. And then the submissions began to arrive.

We knew that narrative forms of writing required a different kind of scholarly engagement, and we developed a review process that reflected the ethos of what it was we felt these developing approaches might offer to the field. Our system of review is a fully open process underpinned by engaged pedagogy, supportive critique, and ongoing dialogue between submitters and reviewers. The work that *JNP* publishes is deeply and sometimes repeatedly engaged throughout the review process. In virtually every case, authors wrote to the journal expressing their astonishment at the depth of the investment that the journal and its reviewers had made in their work and in the development of their theorizing, thinking, and writing. And this was so even where the journal did not ultimately publish the work. 'There is nothing like this in academia,' wrote more than one submitter. We knew that our academic colleagues were deeply socialized into the 'accept, reject, revise-and-resubmit' process of double-blind review. So we took a different course. We agreed that we would work with authors for as long as authors wanted to work with us to revise, to redraft, and to see their writing and their thinking grow in an intellectually safe, supportive environment. This process lies at the heart of *JNP*'s pedagogical remit. The critique is not any less rigorous. But it is collaborative, it is ongoing, and it is encouraging. In this sense, the journal offers a dialogical pedagogy that permits everyone involved in a work's journey to find themselves transformed. It is, perhaps, the journal's most important accomplishment – and one that the casual reader only sees the product of.

We are proud to include a growing range of work that continues to reflect the best of what our review process has to offer. As we hope that submitters will see in our review process an opportunity to grow and be transformed, so we find that the journal also grows and transforms. Volume 3, Number 1 offers a blend of approaches that combine academic voice with the lived experience of everyday identities and the world(s) they navigate. We hope that you enjoy this issue of *Journal of Narrative Politics*.

Elizabeth Dauphinee
Toronto, 2016