

SOCIALIST STUDIES

Journal of the Society
for Socialist Studies

ÉTUDES SOCIALISTES

Revue de la Société
d'études socialistes

Report to the Membership

June 2020

Overview of Activities & Upcoming Plans

Since our last annual meeting, we have implemented the rolling publication format, effective January 2020. At the launch, I noted: “The Journal of Socialist Studies is pleased to announce that we are now publishing articles on a “rolling basis”. What does this mean? First and foremost, it means that we will be able to publish articles in a timely fashion and that critical research and analysis will be available to our community faster and in more “digestible” bits. As articles are received and approved for publication (double-blind peer review for scholarly articles and editorial approval for others), they will be released on the Journal website. At the end of each calendar year, we will gather all the content together in a single volume.”

To date, we have “rolled out” four academic articles on a variety of topics (fossil capitalism; workplace racism, intersectionality and theory, and housing/social equity in South Africa). We have also published an academic roundtable on Canada/Cuba studies and exchanges, and a reviews and debates section.

In April, we were saddened to learn of the passing of scholar-activist, Mel Watkins. Former Socialist Studies President, Ken Collier brought it to my attention and long-time scholar-activist Frank Cunningham assisted in arranging a Tribute section. This Tribute went live on April 22 and can be accessed here: <http://socialiststudies.ca/2020/04/socialist-studies-tribute-to-mel-watkins/>. It is a part of Vol 14(1) of the Journal and will be preserved as all of our other articles. Upon publication, we received feedback and thanks from the Watkins family. While losing Mel is a blow to scholarship and activism in Canada, the Tributes clearly demonstrated his lasting legacy. To “round-out” the Tribute, former Journal Editor Elaine Coburn’s remembrances will be published this week. It is my hope that members familiar with Mel’s work and who carry-on aspects of his analysis would consider a scholarly “special issue” or “special section” this year.

We have been able to track pdf downloads of articles (and complete issues) since 2014. This includes, however, publications that were originally published since 2005, when the Journal moved to both online and open access publishing. I have included the statistics provided last year for comparison purposes. For those among us who love “data”, I should note that this is quite “noisy” – full issue downloads are included which has the effect of under-reporting the total number of times an article has been downloaded. That said, the take-away for me is that we have increased our downloads (and one hopes you can conclude an increase in readership as well) and the first 6 months shows a robust comparison /month to the previous year (which had access to a longer period of data).

Finally, what are the upcoming goals and objectives of the Journal? Briefly, these include:

- Identifying a co-editor to work with now but also in anticipation that my term ends in 2022;
- Strengthening the Reviewer database
- Building on the momentum of the past six months
- Renewing the Editorial Board (watch your email for calls to join)

Journal Download Data

	May 2019	May 2020
Total PDF downloads (since 2014)	157,191	208,137 (50,946 since May 2019)
Average Monthly Downloads	2620	4246
Average PDF Download /article	464	563
Total Articles Published	20	20
Download Total of Articles Published June previous year – May current year	2456	2189

It is worth noting that article downloads continue to grow. So, as a simple comparison: in May 2019, articles published in 2018 have now been downloaded a total of 6512 times (versus 2456 at this time last year). In other words, our articles stand the test of time.

Each year I usually share the “Number 1” most downloaded article (since 2014 but published since 2005). The article is a keynote by Dr. Bill Carroll, delivered to the Annual Meeting of Socialist Studies at York University in 2006. This address, entitled “Hegemony, Counter-hegemony, Anti-hegemony” has been downloaded 8770 times and can be accessed here: <https://www.socialiststudies.com/index.php/sss/issue/view/1656>. I can speculate that this article will continue to be frequently accessed as we all search for ways to make sense of the current moment.

The “top ten” articles by download are as follows:

Author	Title	Journal	PDF Downloads (since 2014)
William K. Carroll	Hegemony, Counter-hegemony, Anti-hegemony	Fall 2006	8770
Ian Hussey	Note on Stuart Hall’s “Cultural Identity and Diaspora”	Feminism and New Socialisms (2014)	8474
Gary Teeple	A Commentary on Joel Bakan’s “The Corporation, The Pathological Pursuit of Profit and Power”	Fall 2005	5948
J.L. Deveau	Examining the Institutional Ethnographer’s Toolkit	Fall 2008	3760

Johanna Brenner	21st Century Socialist-Feminism	Feminism and New Socialisms (2014)	3511
Ian Hussey and Patrice LeClerc	“The Big Smoke” Screen: Toronto’s G20 Protests, Police Brutality, and the Unaccountability of Public Officials	Double Issue: Organizing for Austerity (2011)	3062
Joshua Moufawad-Paul	Quartermasters of Stadiums and Cemeteries: Normative Insurrectionism and the Under-theorization of Revolutionary Strategy	The Subaltern: Speaking Through Socialism (2016)	2691
Margaret Kovach	Treaties, Truths and Transgressive Pedagogies: Re-Imagining Indigenous Presence in the Classroom	Transgressive Pedagogies and Research (2013)	2419
Peyman Vahabzadeh	The Conditions of Subalternity: Reflections on Subjectivity, Experience and Hegemony	Fall 2007	2384
Abigail Bakan	Marxism, Feminism, and Epistemological Dissonance	Race, Class and Empire (2012)	2354

Editorial Board

I would like to acknowledge the Editorial Board in this Report.

Members are:

- Paul Kellogg, Athabasca University, Canada
- Aziz Choudry, McGill University
- Larry Patriquin, Nipissing University
- Patrice LeClerc, St. Lawrence University, United States
- Ross A Klein, Memorial University
- Elaine Coburn, past Editor,
- Bill Carroll, University of Victoria, Canada

Other Recognitions and Thanks

Our Journal is hosted and supported (at no charge) by the University of Alberta Library. As we have moved to the rolling publication format, we have received invaluable assistance from the OJS Team. In light of the significant budgetary cuts being disproportionately applied to the University of Alberta, I am concerned about the future of this service. However, to date, I have not received any communication to suggest that it is in jeopardy. Loss of this support would be a significant blow to the Journal.

I would like to acknowledge the support of the Society of Socialist Studies Executive. There is no doubt of the Society's commitment to ensuring the longevity and success of the Journal. A word of thanks, again, to Sean Cain who manages the Journal website and does the copyediting, layout and design for the Journal. His work has been both beautiful and essential to the success of *Socialist Studies*. His support for the rolling publication format has been crucial to making the first six months a real success!

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Sandra Rein', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sandra Rein, PhD
Editor