

Commentary on the review of *The Professoriate – An Occupation in Crisis*.

May I reply to two statements appearing in the review of *The Professoriate – Occupation in Crisis* published in Volume XVI, No. 2, 1986 of the *CJHE*.

“Senior administrators are underrepresented while over half the papers are by professors or graduate students in education, most of whom are associated with the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.”

Apart from the addresses of the four invited speakers, the conference papers were solicited by the usual means of sending out a flyer announcing the conference.

Of the 1200 flyers mailed, 264 went to the presidents and vice-presidents of Canadian universities and colleges and a small group of U.S. universities, and 125 went to a variety of deans in Canadian institutions. The underrepresentation of senior administrators was not intended. Presumably, administrative office leaves little time for the preparation of learned papers.

Of the four invited speakers, none was from Toronto or from OISE; one (each) was from Laurentian, Carleton, UCLA and Claremont Graduate School (California).

Twenty of the twenty-one submitted papers were published. Five of these were prepared by faculty of OISE's higher education department, either alone or with colleagues and students and three were prepared by HEG doctoral students, either alone or with colleagues of their own universities.

It is hardly surprising that the professors and students of higher education should take the trouble to prepare papers for a conference on the professoriate. What is unfortunate is that so few other members of universities spend time studying their institutions and their profession.

“It is hard to see what market it will serve. The papers are too brief and too research oriented.”

It is being used, we understand, as a book of readings in courses on higher education. The instruction in the call for papers was for research/reflective papers, 20 double space typed pages maximum. Most authors ran well over the instruction.

“The need to draw papers from scholars close to Toronto...”

What need? Nonsense! The authors are all identified by footnotes to their papers so there can be no confusion as to their institutional origin. Reading down the Table of Contents the authors, apart from those at OISE, are from: Sudbury, Ottawa, Minnesota, Buffalo, Edmonton, Montreal, Guelph, Illinois, Montreal, California, Vancouver and Windsor.

It is not my practice to argue with the opinions of reviews. The facts, however, I would like to record.

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