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Letter from the Editor

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Letter from the Editor-in-Chief

Greetings from Boiling Springs, North Carolina, home of Gardner-Webb University and the Journal of Organizational and Educational Leadership. Geographically, we are nestled in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains about one hour west of Charlotte. Virtually, we are another story.

Like Scarlett Johansson’s cosmically ascendant character, “Lucy,” said at the end of the film by the same name, JOEL is “everywhere.” Well, almost everywhere. The fact is that in the last 30 days alone, 13 institutions in 19 countries representing every continent except Antarctica has downloaded at least one article from our premier edition.

Discounting polar explorers, our readers represent an extraordinary audience, coming roughly two-thirds from education and one-third each from corporate and military institutions. To say that we are gratified to serve a growing and varied need for practitioner and emerging scholarship for leaders is an understatement.

On a related note, while our first edition represented writers proximate to North Carolina, Issue 2 contains articles by practitioner scholars as distal as Texas and Idaho. Thanks to you, word is getting out. So what will you find in this issue?

We begin with a study from Windy Dorsey of the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction reporting on the positive effects of a proprietary reading program on third-grade reading scores. Particularly timely, at least for North Carolina readers, is an evaluation study from researchers Summer Pannell, Bernnell Peltier-Glaze, Ingrid Hayes, Delilah Davis, and Carrie Skelton, affiliated with Texas Southern University, on the comparative effectiveness of a traditional versus alternative principal preparation program. Continuing the principal preparation theme, Robin Winslow, Meghan Eliason, and Keith Thiede of Boise State University, compare the effect of two internship structures for aspiring principals. Finally, we present our first book review of a text on leadership ethics, penned by Professor Mary Gardiner of the University of Idaho-Boise.

We are grateful for our outstanding reviewer-editors who bring equal measure rigor and relevance to their task. Every article was read and reread, and occasionally amended by your editor-in-chief, to comport with our high standards for publication. Although our published authors do not always present findings that are statistically significant, sometimes just asking the right question represents advancement of practical knowledge. Thank you for your readership.