

Letter from the Editor

Jim Palermo

Gardner-Webb University, jpalermo@gardner-webb.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.gardner-webb.edu/joel>



Part of the [Education Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Palermo, Jim () "Letter from the Editor," *Journal of Organizational & Educational Leadership*: Vol. 4 : Iss. 2 , Article 1.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.gardner-webb.edu/joel/vol4/iss2/1>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the School of Education at Digital Commons @ Gardner-Webb University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Journal of Organizational & Educational Leadership by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ Gardner-Webb University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@gardner-webb.edu.

Letter from the Editor – December 20, 2018

As 2018 draws to a close I present a holiday offering for our readers, an abbreviated international issue with submissions from the People's Republic of China and Australia. After putting out a call for "submissions that expand the notion of leadership" and featuring several in our last issue, here are two international perspectives on the changing shape of leadership.

China is in the news daily in the West. China is clearly rising as a global economic power, but as an educator I know little and assume much about modern Chinese systems. Old assumptions that democracy and Western-style freedoms would follow China's shift toward capitalism and global markets are proving wrong. But what do western educators really know about the Chinese educational system? Qian Zhao's article on the principal's dual role as party leader and instructional leader sheds some light for this Western educator on internal efforts at efficacy within a tightly controlled system. Zhao highlights the dichotomy between transactional and transformative leadership; findings that might generalize to leaders in schools around the globe. Zhao finds that both top down and bottom up leadership can work, given the setting.

So, leadership can be relational and situational. Author Scott Eacott from the University of South Wales agrees. In his book, *Beyond Leadership*, Eacott blends philosophy and sociology with leadership theory to describe the unique role effective leaders hold in building efficacy by building relationships with others. While I was disappointed not to find a model to apply from Eacott's argument I encourage you to read his book to explore his argument on your own. Scott Eacott sounds like an author I would like to engage in a philosophical discussion over a cold brew. Scott, next time you are in North Carolina you have an open invitation.

I wish you well in 2019. As we expand notions of leadership I welcome your voices to our digital platform and invite you to send your submissions for future inclusion in our digital conversation with the international community. Cheers!

Jim Palermo, Ed.D.

Editor