

October 30, 2009

Dear RWSA Colleagues and all other scholars, students, and persons interested in Rural Life:

I have an opportunity here at Indiana University to create and inaugurate an electronic journal, which the Indiana University Libraries will serve as the publisher. The journal will be called Journal of Rural Peoples, Families, and Communities (JORPFC). Its mission is to publish research findings and practical experiences and realities of rural people and their institutions in historical and contemporary times.

As editor of JORPFC, I hope to connect my role as Outreach Chair of RWSA to this project to provide research opportunities for those engaged with RWSA (as well as others). This journal space would provide an additional opportunity for us to continue engaging in the production of pedagogical, research, and creative activities as an association as well as individual scholars and teachers who are committed to creating and providing knowledge to those interested in rural life in world communities. This opportunity would be especially important during the intervening years of RWSA's triennial conference. JORPFC will comprise at least four different sections, which will include: **(1) research and pedagogical works about every day rural life and how to teach the experiences of rural peoples and their cultures; (2) a session for essays and commentaries written by non-academics about their work with rural peoples and communities; (3) a broad review session that will contain reviews of books, museum exhibitions, and films and documentaries related to rural life; and (4) a session entitled working paper series.**

I hope to have the first set of working papers posted by March or April 2010. Meanwhile, I invite you to make nominations or suggestions (including yourself) of persons whom I may consider to be: (a) associate editor(s); (b) managing editor(s); and (c) members of the editorial board. Responsibilities for each of these positions will be sent in detail later. Advanced Graduate Students may be nominated or can nominate themselves to be considered as members of the managing editor team. I must add that all of this work is voluntary and for a good cause.

Forthcoming will also be information concerning the functionality of the journal. This means all relevant information about contacts, policies, submissions, publication frequency, author guidelines, copyright notice, privacy statement, journal sponsorship, sources of support, and the publisher, IU Libraries, and the publishing system in relationship to this journal project.

If you would like to be considered for service in any of these capacities, please send me your CV by November 15, 2009. If you want to make a nomination of another please send me that person's name and email information, so that I may make the contact as soon as possible.

I hope that you will find this development to be exciting possibilities for RWSA.

Thanks,

Valerie