

## Conference Presentations

- Jeffs, C. (2008, June). *Scholarly activity in British Columbia's public colleges study: An indicator of organizational change and adaptation*. Paper presented at the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education (CSSHE), the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Vancouver, BC.
- Compton-Smith, C., Jeffs, C., Langley, L., Smythe, S., & Whalley, T. (2008, May). *Changing college landscapes: The ecology of scholarship at Douglas College*. Session presented at the annual meeting of the Association of Canadian Community Colleges (ACCC), Prince George, BC.
- Jeffs, C. (2008, April). *Leading and learning: CE LEADER Model from continuing education*. Paper presented at the Conference on Continuing Studies and Contract Training, Naramata, BC.
- Jeffs, C. (2008, March). *Transitions, tensions and trends: Scholarly activity in British Columbia's public colleges study*. Paper presented at the Federation of Post-Secondary Educators of BC (FPSE) Scholarly Activity Conference, New Westminster, BC.
- Jeffs, C. (2007, July). *Scholarly Activity: A pathway to the scholarship of teaching and learning in BC's public colleges*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL), Sydney, AU.
- Jeffs, C., Carrie, J., O'Hagan, P., & Welock, B. (2007, May). *Leading and learning: A model from continuing education faculty*. Roundtable session presented at the Canadian Association of University Continuing Education (CAUCE) annual meeting. Edmonton, AB.
- Jeffs, C., Carr, W., MacFadgen, S. L., Paynter, R., & Waterhouse, T. (2006, January). *Renewal of the unspoken compact: Counteracting the impacts of globalization on higher education*. Poster session presented at Hawaii International Conference on Education, Honolulu, HI.



SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY  
THINKING OF THE WORLD

## FACULTY OF EDUCATION

### ORAL EXAMINATION CHERYL LYNNE JEFFS

FOR THE DEGREE OF

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION  
EdD

**Tuesday, November 24, 2009**  
**SFU Vancouver (Room 2250) at 1:30 PM**

### EXAMINING COMMITTEE

Chair:	Dr. Jean Warburton
Senior Supervisor:	Dr. Geoff Madoc-Jones
Member:	Dr. Deborah Bartlette
Member:	Dr. Devron Gaber
Internal/External:	Dr. Elizabeth Wallace
External Examiner:	Dr. Leslie King

# SCHOLARLY ACTIVITY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA'S COMMUNITY COLLEGES: SENIOR ADMINISTRATORS' PERSPECTIVES

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## ABSTRACT

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Scholarly activity has emerged as a significant dimension in British Columbia's community colleges. The purpose of this study was to explore the emergence, history and current role of scholarly activity initiatives, policies and practice in BC's community colleges and how this dimension of the college is an indicator of organizational change and adaptation.

This qualitative, descriptive and interpretive study was informed by a naturalistic paradigm. Organizational change theory was utilized to analyze and interpret the findings of how the colleges adapted to include scholarly activity. Primary data were collected through personal interviews; secondary data were obtained from the literature. The sample included all 12 community colleges in BC and senior college administrators were interviewed about their perspectives and predictions of scholarly activity. The body of literature explored definitions of and distinctions between scholarly activity and its related terms, and traced the influencers and emergence of scholarly activity in BC's community colleges.

The findings indicate there is no common definition of scholarly activity in BC's community colleges; historical events, reports, legislation and initiatives influenced the emergence of scholarly activity; administrators' perspectives of scholarly activity are generally optimistic in that it is sustainable, supported and encouraged; and scholarly activity is an indicator of organizational change and adaptation, evidenced by change in college initiatives, policies and practice.

Administrators claim the primary intent of scholarly activity is to enhance teaching and learning. Trends to appoint faculty with higher credentials and expectations to conduct scholarly activity are evident. Future leadership from college administrators to define and develop scholarly activity is identified, as well as implications for colleges to be proactive about this dimension in their strategic planning.

## Academic Record

2002 – M.A. Adult Education, University of British Columbia  
1989 – B.A. Family & Nutritional Sciences, University of British Columbia  
1976 – Dip. Arts, Douglas College

## Professional Experience

2003 – Present Faculty, Child, Family and Community Studies,  
Douglas College, New Westminster BC  
1989 – 2003 Director of Programs and Research, British Columbia  
Council for Families, Vancouver BC  
1977 – 1981 Public Relations Director, British Columbia Lions  
Society, Vancouver BC

## Publications

- Jeffs, C. (2002). Informing policy: Findings of a study on application of learning following a continuing professional education program. *Proceedings of the Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education, Toronto, ON*, 154-158.
- Brisco, K., Furlini, L., Gascon, M. & Jeffs, C. (2001). From marginalized to mainstream: Different stories, similar needs. Encounters with diverse groups in the practice of adult education. *Proceedings of the Canadian Association for the Study of Adult Education, Laval, PQ*, 193-194.
- Jeffs, C. & Andres, L. (1999). *Evaluation of the ASK ASSESS ACT suicide intervention training program for school personnel*. Vancouver, BC: BC Council for Families.

## Reviewer

Canadian Journal of Higher Education

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