

Foreword

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The theme of volume 3 is Educational Sustainability: Cultural, Economic, and Environmental. Sustainability is broadly understood through transformative structures that have lasting significance to current ways of being; through an examination of history, we understand our current status. By understanding current structures, like our aquariums and libraries, in an ever-changing and technologically-driven world, we can make changes to sustain their relevance. A critical review of selected autobiographical literature can provide insight into the long-term impact of childhood occurrences on character development. These areas, historical events, current structures, and literature, are often overlooked in the discussion of sustainability but are important to cultural, economic, and environmental growth. The authors' perspectives will engender a wider appreciation of Bermuda's past and present by immersing the reader in information relevant to understanding one's context. Such understanding is paramount to developing opportunities to shape Bermuda's future which will appeal to everyone - students and lifelong learners.

Simmons' editorial, which focuses on economics as his case study, examines the efficacy of formal education and the conceptual gaps between expectations that exist between teachers and society-at-large. He links expectations with quality uncertainty which may encompass student opinion, professional development, and teacher evaluation. He argues that the evaluation of these elements should be more scientifically-grounded.

Maxwell's article on the African colonisation of Bermuda delineates the Island's role and involvement in the slave trade during the seventeenth century. The article is a vivid account of human trafficking involving Central Africans. Maxwell describes the contribution of these early arrivals to the development of the Island through the application of their expertise in agriculture.

Bacon and Ziepniewski examine the importance of environmental education to inspire lasting 'appreciation and stewardship' of the environment. Throughout their article, they discuss the creative use of the aquarium facilities, involving children and adults, as their case study. They imply that environmental sustainability is dependent upon developing a sense of responsibility in local and global citizens.

Similarly, Alleyne discusses the importance of sustaining library systems for future users by ensuring that the library remains relevant. This means that LIS programmes must have a sustainability framework and keep up with information management changes, particularly changes in the use of technology. Libraries must have a competitive brand, be sensitive to changes in consumer needs, provide educational opportunities for librarians to encourage flexibility in thinking about library structures, and retool their skillsets.

Master's book review examines *A Fall from Aloft*, Burland's quasi-autobiographical coming-of-age story. This narrative presents the reader with a thoughtful view of 1940s Bermuda's divisions by class and race. These experiences had a lasting impact on Burland's life. This brief story depicts the journal themes of historical and environmental structures on an individual's development.

Townsend's poem is a meaningful and thought-provoking interpretation of historical references in Foster's *Hall of History* mural at Commissioner's House in Dockyard, Bermuda. Her poem will entice readers to view the mural, to undertake a more substantive digestion of Bermuda's past, and to think about those components that have been sustained through history to the current time.

The articles, book review, and poem, in Volume 3, provide a beginning to unpacking cultural, economic, and

environmental sustainability in Bermuda. The sustainability of technical education, past, present, and future, will feature prominently in volume 4 of *Voices in Education*.