

# Foreword

As we close JIPE General Issue Vol. 8 No. 1, we are thrilled to share two exciting updates.


First, we welcome Doug Thomson, *DPhil*, as the journal's new Managing Editor. A long-time supporter and editorial board member, Doug brings 16 years of experience as a faculty member in Humber's Faculty of Community and Social Services.

Second, JIPE has been awarded \$126,500 through the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council's (SSHRC) Aid to Scholarly Journals program. As one of only two polytechnic journals funded this cycle, this recognition underscores the role JIPE plays in shaping Canada's understanding of the polytechnic model. The funding will also support JIPE's continued evolution as a Diamond Open Access journal, ensuring that knowledge remains free to publish and free to access.

This collection of original research papers, innovation spotlights, and essays serve as a reminder of the incredible work that takes place every day within the polytechnic sector, including:

- An investigation of students' perceptions of AI and its role in developing durable skills such as critical thinking, communication, and creativity.
- A pilot project that explores how working with a simulated patient can help nursing students deliver culturally responsive, empathetic care.
- An examination of the complex challenges of conducting community research with vulnerable populations.
- Two powerful essays from recent Humber graduates, Heather Perl and Sarah Dickey, drawing on both their lived experiences and academic work.
- Four contributions from the Teaching Excellence Program, which showcase Humber faculty members' dedication to innovation in teaching and learning.

Together, these contributions illustrate the creativity, commitment, and care that motivate all of us in the polytechnic community. We hope you find some inspiration herein.

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