

Laudation for Joyce Goodman

Allow me to present Professor Joyce Goodman on the occasion of ISCHE's 40th anniversary. Recently retired from the University of Winchester where she culminated her years of service to the institution as Assistant Vice Chancellor, Joyce is a specialist in the history of women's education and a fellow ISCHE traveler for twenty years now. Secretary par excellence from 2003 to 2010, she has left her imprint in far more than the minutes of our association. Joyce Goodman is the second woman to receive an honorary life membership, following in the footsteps of Ruth Watts, for whom she wrote the laudation. It is my great pleasure to be doing the same for her; she richly deserves our tribute.

How to strike the right tone for this honorary *laudatio*? This is an important question when writing about Joyce Goodman, who long hesitated about whether to devote her life to music or to the history of education. I don't know of any musical renditions that would fittingly describe her investment in the field so, more prosaically, let me jump in and paint an admittedly limited picture of Joyce's contributions to our community.

Faithful participant

Joyce began attending ISCHE in the late 1990s as the ISCHE representative of the History of Education Society (GB); her encounter with ISCHE could be described as a meeting of minds. She found an international setting that challenged her to think globally; the organization found a member willing to invest her time and considerable energy in all facets of our professional life, pushing the association and its members to stretch their reach, to strive for greater inclusion, and to collaborate across disciplinary and national boundaries. A pillar of the Standing Working Group on gender and education, she was among the first to think about the imperial reach of women's education, encouraging approaches that brought new themes into the conferences but also new participants into our community.

ISCHE Secretary

It is perhaps fitting for a scholar so interested in deconstructing how gendered stereotypes have characterized women's governance in education, that her institutional mark upon ISCHE has been as Secretary, the archetypal woman's task. While her success in this role was undoubtedly helped by her typing skills (all those lessons in pianoforte honing the dexterous nimbleness of the female hand, as career guidance manuals will tell us), her impact went far beyond the recording of minutes. Soft-spoken and attentive, she has the true manager's skill for getting people to work, collaborate, and envision productive futures together. As Secretary, alongside Wayne Urban and Frank Simon, she was well-positioned to promote her vision for the future and to seek to establish a deeper working collaboration with EERA, for example. And she has honed these managerial skills in many settings: first within the Women's History Network, and more recently as President of the History of Education Society (GB).

Many of us can testify to the way her ideas have fed not just the organization of numerous panels, but far more ambitious programs for special issues, collective volumes, or collaborative research projects. This is indeed how my friendship with Joyce was cemented when she convinced me it would be a good idea to present a proposal for a book about Girls' secondary education in the Western world to Palgrave, using our contacts established within ISCHE. I fell in line, along with Jim Albisetti; my research leave was spent working on that book rather than on the project I had intended—and I have no regrets.

Keynote speaker, collaborative scholar, and teacher

Modest in demeanor but titanic in her intellectual projects, Joyce Goodman has also made her mark on ISCHE through her scholarship. Her interest in women's education and issues of identity led her to explore with theoretical sophistication insights gained from the linguistic turn in women's history and the imperial turn in the social sciences. ISCHE members had the pleasure of hearing her deliver a keynote address in Rutgers on "Women, education and inequality" (that appeared in *Paedagogica Historica* in 2010), and others will remember the important special issue on Empires overseas and

Empires at Home that she coedited for PH as well. Perhaps more significantly, she brought other people along with her on her intellectual journeys, as she did with me. Her numerous edited volumes can be seen as her intellectual trademark. Joyce Goodman can speak out like the women she studies, but when she publishes books, she does it with others, beginning with Sylvia Harrop (*Women, Educational Policy Making and Administration in England. Authoritative Women Since 1800*), and then, regularly, with Jane Martin, fellow ISCHE faithful (*Gender, Colonialism and Education: the Political Experience of Education; Women and Education, 1800-1980: Educational Reform and Personal Identities*; and more recently the 4 volume compilation, *Women and Education, Major Themes* []). Interest in new approaches, interdisciplinary conversations, or the innovative use of sources characterize the many articles she has published in the field, as well as the research projects she has directed with others. Be it through the ESCR (Economic and Social Research Council) seminars she co-directed with Gary McCulloch and William Richardson on “Social Change in the History of Education: The British Experience in International Context”, or through her collaborations with the archivist at the Manchester High School for Girls, Joyce has consistently through her career pushed herself and others to question historical paradigms and to embrace new perspectives: gender (of course), but also issues relating to race and disability, and more recently the question of musical literacies as well as sonorities in the history of education.

Marked no doubt by her years as a music teacher in both England and the Netherlands, Joyce Goodman’s skills as a scholar are in part the product of her ability to listen—to her historical sources be they written, visual or oral; to fellow scholars, and also to students. During her years as Secretary within ISCHE she consistently promoted initiatives on behalf of Postgraduate students, initiating poster sessions in Hamburg, encouraging their participation in the annual conferences and spreading knowledge about the UK history of Society ISCHE bursary scheme to other national societies, so they too might encourage the new generation of scholars to join our community.

Convinced Internationalist

Joyce’s scholarship in recent years has come increasingly to reflect the international orientation of ISCHE. Breaking out of the boundaries of a nationally circumscribed perspective, her research and her research subjects increasingly gravitate in cosmopolitan settings where transnational conversations give evidence of the emergence of an international mind. Be it through the exploration of settings, such as the International Council of Women, the International Committee of Intellectual Co-operation, or through the travels of such cosmopolitan travelers as Reta Oldham or Laura Dreyfus Barney, Joyce has pushed many of us to see ISCHE, but also network 17 in EERA, as a place to experiment transnational approaches to the history of education, to develop international networks, and to position women squarely within the picture.

For this, and for so much more—friendships built, shared and treasured—ISCHE takes great pleasure in honoring Joyce Goodman, whose voice has brought so many modulated tones into our conversations.

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August 2018