

NORTH AMERICAN ADULT EDUCATORS

Phyllis M. Cunningham Archive of Quintessential Autobiographies for the Twenty-First Century



For all of the accolades that Phyllis justly receives as someone totally committed to social justice and “equality for all,” she would be the first to warn you not to romanticize her or the work of spacemaking. Only in books, in the realm of ideas, is spacemaking easy. Real-world spacemaking is hard, full of contradiction—she has never let these contradictions get in the way of being a spacemaker.

In the end, Phyllis would want us to focus on the question: Spacemaking for whom? And it’s the practical answer to that question that makes Phyllis’s legacy so enduring. She has been a spacemaker for people whose lives have been delimited by unequal relations of power and whose stories have been silenced. Phyllis’s most profound legacy is that through her mentoring and support, “others have been encouraged to be spacemakers as well.”

— Ronald M. Cervero and Sharan B. Merriam



North American ADULT EDUCATORS

Phyllis M. Cunningham Archive of Quintessential
Autobiographies for the Twenty-First Century

Keith B. Armstrong, Lee W. Nabb, Anthony P. Czech, editors
Special Tribute by Ronald M. Cervero and Sharan B. Merriam

Armstrong
Nabb
Czech

North American Adult Educators:

*Phyllis M. Cunningham Archive
of Quintessential Autobiographies
for the Twenty-First Century*

Keith B. Armstrong, Lee W. Nabb, Anthony P. Czech, editors

Discovery Association Publishing House
Chicago, IL

www.discoveryap.com

All rights reserved. No portion of this book may be reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical including photocopying, without permission in writing from the publisher. Inquiries should be addressed to: Discovery Association Publishing House, P.O. Box 87662, Chicago, Illinois 60680-0662.

FIRST EDITION

Copyright © 2007 by

Discovery Association Publishing House
Chicago, IL

Library of Congress Control Number 2006925488

Armstrong, Keith B., Nabb, Lee W., Czech, Anthony P., editors

North American Adult Educators: Phyllis M. Cunningham archive of quintessential autobiographies for the 21st century/ Keith B. Armstrong, Lee W. Nabb, Anthony P. Czech, editors.

P. cm.
ISBN 1-931967091

1. Autobiographies. 2. Adult Education Archive. 3. Phyllis M. Cunningham. 4. Ronald M. Cervero. 5. Sharan B. Merriam.

Table of Contents

Preface	i
Keith B. Armstrong	i
Tribute: Dr. Phyllis M. Cunningham, Spacemaker	iii
Ronald M. Cervero and Sharan B. Merriam	iii
Autobiographies	
Phyllis M. Cunningham	1
James C. Alexander	11
Mary V. Alfred	17
Paul Armstrong	23
Ian Baptiste	29
Gretchen T. Bersch	33
Roger Boshier	39
Marcie Boucouvalas	47
Ralph G. Brockett	53
Shauna Butterwick	61
Paul Brian Carr	69
Ellen Carusetta	73
Mary Katherine Cooper	77
Patricia Cranton	83
Michael Day	87
M. Gail Derrick	93
Leona M. English	99
Benjamin Feinstein	103
Tara Fenwick	107
Barbara A. Frey	113
Jeanne d'Arc Gaudet	117
André P. Grace	123
Catherine A. Hansman	129
Tom Heaney	135

QUINTESENTIAL AUTOBIOGRAPHIES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

× John Arthur Henschke	139
× Roger Hiemstra	145
Bob Hill	153
E. Paulette Isaac	159
× Carol E. Kasworm	165
Kathleen P. King	171
× Alan B. Knox	177
Randee Lipson Lawrence	183
Vivian W. Mott	189
Michael Newman	193
Larry Olds	199
Michael K. Ponton	207
Robert C. Preziosi	211
Esther Prins	217
× B. Allan Quigley	223
John R. Rachal	229
Kathleen B. Rager	235
+ Jost Reischmann	241
Jennifer A. Sandlin	249
Vanessa Sheared	255
Joyce Stalker	259
Alan Thomas	267
Susan Ann Timm	275
Kristopher Wells	285
Stephen R. White	291
Miriam Zukas	299
Postscript	
Lee W. Nabb	305

Jost Reischmann

Becoming a Professor in Andragogy—Lived History

Should I really be a part of this book? I know of at least two arguments against it: First, I am not an American adult educator; I live and work in Germany. However, for more than 25 years I have regularly visited conferences and colleagues at their universities in the USA and have them as guests and friends at my university and home. Phyllis Cunningham commented about me at the annual conference of AACE (American Association for Adult and Continuing Education) 2002 in St. Louis: "Perhaps Jost is more American than some other professors!" (Still I hesitate – Was this a compliment?).

Second, I have an identity problem: Am I an adult educator? For a number of years I clearly would have said, "Yes." Still today I sometimes work in adult education institutions (companies, churches, adult education centers) for some extra money or fun or because I cannot say no; but in my main profession I am and I feel like a professor of adult education (officially, "Chair of Andragogy"), educating students in an academic discipline. We teach, learn, research about the education of adults, but I see my university work not as adult education.

Nevertheless, both anti-arguments also offer opportunities. Sometimes things can be seen clearer from a distance. The international-comparative perspective from outside provokes to overcome ethnocentrism. Occasionally I had the feeling this provocation was my role in the collegial interchanges. I have to confess: Now and then I enjoy playing this provocation role! Moreover, the professor's perspective has the advantage that (because I do not have to represent one specific direction of adult education) I have the academic freedom to think beyond the different institutions, traditions, and movements where adult educators in the practical field are sheltered. (Are you aware that I do what I described one sentence above?) I hope that helps to justify my inclusion in this book.

How I Came (Not) into Adult Education

I started fairly early to "work" in adult education. As I could operate a slide projector and a 16mm film projector I was asked in my late teenage years to become the technique guy of our local adult education center (*Volkshochschule*) - \$1 for showing slides, \$2 for films. Especially I liked the presenters that brought slides and film (\$3). Beside the money being momentous for me, I could listen to lectures without paying. "Beautiful flowers of the Alps,"