This special edition celebrates 101 years of Paulo Freire’s contributions. Within this dossier, we explore how his theories influenced urban planning & policy, architecture, and education. Contributors have graciously provided exemplary narratives from varying perspectives. We especially highlight an interview with Dr. Luis Porter, a former student.

Urban issues and urban policy have great significance in the design of our livelihoods and workspaces. As well, they lay the groundwork for educational planning as urban centers are organized around schools worldwide. Paulo Freire’s legacy continues. The authors who have joined us this year, describe how his presence continues to inform their pedagogical decisions. Interestingly as well, they share their sense of freedom as they explore themes that would otherwise be excluded at colleges and universities.

Wisch (2020) describes opposition to Freire’s ideas in certain schools in the United States, (2011 Arizona opposition to *Pedagogy of the Oppressed* as inflammatory). In his revolutionary text he supported of the poor, championed their cause, and provided them with the tools for them to fend for themselves and to articulate their needs. Perhaps this idea liberation of the individual continues to be problematic in certain environments.

Gerhardt (2000) describes how Freire worked with the less privileged people in his native country, Brazil. As a lawyer and social worker, he championed ideas of inclusion. His urban contribution includes just exactly that, participation in a healthy environment that promotes learning. Accused of leftist ideas, Freire was exiled and understood the plight of the unjustly accused. Welcomed at prestigious universities world-wide, he continued to share his ideas of inclusion and self-realization for all.

Cortina & Winter (2021) describe his pedagogy of liberation, inform us of his desire to broaden learner’s perspectives in order to view the entire picture in a critical manner. The idea of having a critical conscience, along with the liberation to do it, is and will always be revolutionary. As well, opportunities for dialogue, for sharing one’s perspective, and the freedom to develop a
critical perspective are Freire’s contributions that live on.

Contributing authors in this issue, as well as our interviewee, Dr. Luis Porter, share their perspectives on Freire’s message to educators world-wide.

References

