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Editor’s Note / Note de la rédactrice

I apologize for the lateness of this November 2003 issue of Labour, Capital and Society/TRAVAIL, capital et société, which is actually being produced months after my final double issue “Celebrating 25 years of LCS” (37: 1 & 2, 2004). Difficulties arose in completing this November issue when McGill decided to move the administration of the Centre for Developing-Area Studies (CDAS), where the journal was previously based, from the Office of the Vice-Principal (Research) to the Faculty of Arts. I no longer work in any capacity in the CDAS where I was based for over 30 years and the journal is now fully administered in the able hands of a new Editor, Suzanne Dansereau at the International Development Studies Programme, St Mary’s University, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

However, even under these constraints, we have a wonderful group of articles in this issue. The first article “Agrarian Decline and Breadbasket Dependence in the Caribbean: Confronting Illusions of Inevitability” by Tony Weiss is a remarkable contribution in which he situates the current struggles of the agricultural sector within the broader context of market liberalization and reaffirms the importance of small farming in the Caribbean region. Then, Arturo Guillén R. in his article “The National Development Project in Celso Furtado’s Thinking” pays tribute to Celso Furtado, one of the most noted Latin American economists, who died in November 2004. In this article, he outlines the most important ideas of Furtado that challenged the way one looked at development, especially giving central importance to income distribution, and suggests an alternative strategy for development that can confront neo-liberalism in Latin America. Paul Cliche in his article “Réflexion sur les concepts de ‘pauvreté’ et de ‘développement’” also provides us with some thoughtful reflections on the concepts of “poverty” and “development” by using a much-needed historical perspective.

And finally, Edward Webster and Andries Bezuidenhout in their article “Fair Globalization in Southern Africa: A Response to the ILO’s World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization” critically evaluate that Commission’s report. They do so by summarizing the responses, given at a workshop in Johannesburg, South Africa, of sixty people including a number of
scholars, policy practitioners and representatives of employers’ and workers’ organizations of Southern Africa. Three book reviews round off the issue.

Rosalind Boyd

January 2006