I write this column on November 9, 2016 in Boston, Massachusetts, USA. It is the day when the results from our presidential election became a reality – Trump is our next US president. For me, a Hillary Clinton supporter, the unimaginable has occurred; and I am concerned for the future of my beloved country, its people and all the world. I know it will take time to understand this new political landscape.

Fred Rogers, a much-loved host of the public television show, Mr. Rogers’ Neighborhood, once shared, “When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, ‘Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping’”. I plan to be a helper; and I encourage others to be so, too. I envision my role as an advocate for those who are experiencing or at risk for social injustice, occupational deprivation or disparity among other causes such as affordable health care. Many of these topics are addressed in articles published in WORK.

This issue contains a variety of articles on topics such as combat stress reaction within a military unit, biomechanical overload on dairy parlor workers, academic and social concerns of students in higher education, sleep apnea among hospital staff, work-related strategies of breast cancer survivors, job satisfaction, ergonomics in gynecologists’ daily practice, return to work after a stroke, workplace barriers encountered by employed persons with systemic sclerosis among many others.

As mentioned in previous issues of WORK, we host Learn at WORK, a complimentary webinar series which I have the honor of moderating. Each webinar provides a presentation by and conversation with authors whose evidence-based research article was published in WORK. The easy to access platform makes the webinars available globally.

We hosted three Learn at WORK webinars that can be enjoyed on our Learn at WORK YouTube channel at: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOJalCXvSg9fPHaFFs48PuQ

On December 8, 2016; 1-2pmEST, Dr. Tom Albin, an Editorial Board member of WORK will discuss Computer Ergonomics: State of the Art.

I began recruiting speakers for our 2017 Learn at WORK webinars and I thought I would give you a sneak preview of them.

January, 26 2017 from 1pmEST-2pmEST: Valerie Rice, an Editorial Board member of WORK will discuss Personal Resilience and Coping among U.S. Military and Veterans: Implications for Work.

February 23, 2017 from 1pmEST-2pmEST: Lynn Shaw, an Editorial Board member of WORK along with Bill Chedore, Lynn Cooper, & Mikelle Bryson Campbell will discuss Working and living with persistent pain.

March 22, 2017 from 1pm-2pmEST: Anita Richert-Kaźmierska & Katarzyna Stankiewicz will discuss Work–life balance – does the age matter?

April 20, 2017 from 1pm-2pmEST: Peter Vink, Conne Mara Bazley & Suzanne Hiemstra-van Mastrigt will discuss Space, Time, Design: Don’t forget time in environmental design.

May 10, 2017 from 1pm-2pmEST: Lynn Shaw will discuss Invisible work of using and monitoring knowledge by parents (end-users) of children with chronic conditions.

October 19, 2017 from 1pm-2pmEST: Julie Dorsey, an Editorial Board member of WORK will discuss Re-evaluation of a LEED Platinum Building: Occupant experiences of health and comfort.

December 13, 2017 from 1pm-2pmEST: Rebecca Twinley will discuss Woman-to-woman rape and sexual assault, and its impact upon the occupation of work: victim/survivors’ life roles of worker or student as disruptive and preservative.

More Learn at WORK webinars are in the planning phase so keep posted at:

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As always, I welcome hearing from you.

Cheers,
Karen

Founding Editor, WORK
Occupational therapist & ergonomist
E-mail: Kjacobs@bu.edu
blogs.bu.edu/kjacobs/