EDITORIAL

This general issue of the journal presents three different articles respectively dealing with migration in the mid-twentieth century, the formation of identity of contemporary young Anglo-Indians, and the demographic study of Anglo-Indians in West Bengal today. Rochelle Almeida’s article addresses the causes and nature of “first wave” Anglo-Indian migration to the UK, by reading her extensive interviews with Anglo-Indian migrants against theories of post-colonial migration. Walter Parker shares his reflections about the formation of identity and a sense of cultural belonging for young Anglo-Indians in India today, and the central role that education plays. Robyn Andrews presents a report of selected findings on an extensive demographic survey of the Anglo-Indians of West Bengal.

The forthcoming issue will be a collection of articles on recent research about Anglo-Indians in small towns, those not living in the major metropolitan cities of the subcontinent. We are excited to present this work on a sector of the Anglo-Indian community that has not received adequate scholarly attention.

Dr. Robyn Andrews holds a Ph.D. in social anthropology from Massey University in New Zealand, where she is now a senior lecturer in anthropology. Her Ph.D. thesis was on the Anglo-Indian Community (2005), about which she continues to research and write extensively in collaboration with other scholars in Anglo-Indian Studies who belong to various disciplines.

Brent Howitt Otto is currently a post-graduate student in Church History at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara University in the United States. He holds double master’s degrees in history (M.A./M.Sc.) from Columbia University and the London School of Economics where he studied modern India and British Empire. His research and thesis focused on Anglo-Indians at the time of Independence, and particularly the impact of World War II on Anglo-Indian decisions about whether to migrate or to remain in India. Presently Brent is involved in research on Anglo-Indian Catholics in South India. Brent’s maternal ancestry is Anglo-Indian, though he was born in the U.S.A. As a member of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits), Brent is a Roman Catholic priest.