

Editorial Statement

This is the final edition of *Ethnicity and Race in a Changing World*. For five years, the journal has been one of the key activities of the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Race Relations Resource Centre, and we are justly proud of its contribution to international scholarship and its role in maintaining one of Europe's leading specialist libraries on race, migration and ethnicity.

This year the Resource Centre moved from being based within The University of Manchester to a new location in the Manchester Central Library in the heart of the city. As our library and archival collections are now much more accessible to the general public, the relocation has meant that we need a more flexible library acquisition strategy than that provided by the journal. Shifting our investment in the journal into new public engagement activities and collection development enables us to open up our collections to Manchester's ethnic minority communities in new ways. At the same time, we are hoping that our research projects and developing online resources will enable us to maintain connections with the international networks of researchers and activists that have supported the journal.

We are grateful to Julie Devonald who was founding editor of the journal with Emma Britain, and whose energy and efficiency have kept the journal on-course amidst changing staffing and the relocation. Louis Kushnick, who is interviewed in this issue, provided the vision for both the journal and the Resource Centre, based on a quarter of a century editing *Sage Race Relations Abstracts*, which was very much the parent of *ERCW*. Jackie Ould, Ruth Tait and Hannah Niblett have provided editorial support at crucial times, while The University of Manchester Press has been an extremely supportive publisher. We are deeply grateful to our editorial board, authors and reviewers from across Europe and North America for their contributions and commitment, which gave *ERCW* its international vision.

This issue features Carmen's Cusack's analysis of Florida's prison population, which reveals how darker skin tones were more prevalent amongst the male Hispanic prisoners than their female counterparts. The article raises questions about how racial profiling pervades all levels of the criminal justice system, from arrest to sentencing to probation review. Although quantitative approaches to skin colour have been far more common in the medical sciences than the social sciences, such studies raise significant questions about the variegated experiences of racism by ethnic groups.

Richard Verdugo's history of the experiences of former slaves and freedmen following the Civil War emphasizes the persisting economic advantages enjoyed by the latter into the late nineteenth century. This article also shows the economic gains that resulted from the post-emancipation struggle for literacy that is detailed in Christopher Hager's *Word by Word: Emancipation and the Act of Writing* (Harvard University Press, 2013).