

Cross-Cutting Themes and Issues for Further Collaborative Research

Chairperson: Noriyuki Takayama

Noriyuki Takayama is a professor in the Institute of Economics at Hitotsubashi University. He conducts theoretical and econometric research on pensions and decreasing birth rates. He recently began a research project into the coordination of interests between generations. He has been active in a number of committees, including the Council on Population Issues and the Council on Pensions.

Lead discussant: Michèle Stanton-Jean

Michèle Stanton-Jean, was appointed Special Advisor to the Minister of Foreign Affairs (Health and Social Affairs) assigned to the Canadian Permanent Mission to the European Commission in Brussels in July 1998. She held that position until August 2000. In September 2000 she was appointed Advisor in Programs Development, Montreal University, Faculty of Higher Education. Previously, from 1993 to July 1998, Michèle S. Jean was Deputy Minister of Health Canada.

Mrs. Jean started her career as a journalist in Quebec City. She then completed a B.A. and an M.A. in History and an M.Ed. in Adult Education, all at Montreal University. In 1995, she was awarded an Honorary LL.D. from Concordia University.

From 1980 to 1982, she chaired the Quebec Inquiry Commission on Vocational and Socio-Cultural Training for Adults. She then served as a consultant for the International Institute for Educational Planning (IIEP) in Paris. In 1984, she was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister and Director General of the Professional Training Division in the Quebec Department of Manpower and Income Security. In 1988, she became Executive Director of Employment Services in the federal Department of Employment and Immigration and was named Associate Deputy Minister of that department in 1990. In 1992, she was appointed Under Secretary of State.

One of the ten Quebec "Women of the Year" in 1979, she was named "Career Woman of the Year" by Montreal's O'Sullivan College in 1981. She is the author of several books and publications including "L'Histoire des femmes au Québec de la Nouvelle-France à nos jours", written with three other historians.

Mrs. Jean has participated in several international meetings and working groups on labour market training, adult education, health and aging in Argentina, France, China, Europe and Canada.

Lead discussant: On-Kwok Lai

On-Kwok Lai is a professor in the School of Policy Studies at Kwansai Gakuin University. He currently holds both an honorary research fellowship at the Centre of Urban Planning and environmental Management and an honorary professorship in Social Administration & Social Work at the University of Hong Kong. He completed his Dr.rer.pol. at the University of Bremen, under a DAAD Fellowship in Germany. He has taught in Hong Kong and New Zealand. His research interests are in the area of comparative urban and environmental affairs.