Table of Contents

EDITOR'S NOTES (Sharan B. Merriam).

   Andragogy and self-directed learning, two foundational theories of adult learning, continue to guide our understanding of how adults learn.

2. An Update on Transformational Learning (Lisa M. Baumgartner).
   In the 1990s, empirical research on transformational learning has expanded the theory proposed by Freire and Mezirow three decades ago.

   The vast majority of adult learning is informal and incidental; the authors present their revised model of this type of learning.

4. A New Look at Women's Learning (Elisabeth R. Hayes).
   Myths and stereotypes of women's learning are examined, and a socially-constructed notion of gender is proposed for understanding women's learning.

5. Context-Based Adult Learning (Catherine A. Hansman).
   Learning is a tool-dependent, social activity embedded in the context in which it occurs. Situated cognition, cognitive apprenticeship, and communities of practice make up this theoretical perspective.

6. Critical and Postmodern Perspectives on Adult Learning (Deborah W. Kilgore).
   Critical and postmodern theorists examine how the social construction of knowledge and relationships based on power intersect with learning in adulthood.

   Personally significant and meaningful learning is grounded in the adult's emotional, imaginative connection with the self and with the broader social world.

8. The Brain and Consciousness: Sources of Information for Understanding Adult Learning (Lilian H. Hill).
   Principles of learning can be derived from new research on how the brain functions and new understandings of the brain's relationship to mind and consciousness.

9. Off the Beaten Path: Some Creative Approaches to Adult Learning (M. Carolyn Clark).
   Two of the newest approaches to adult learning are discussed—learning through our physical body, or what is known as somatic learning, and learning through stories of our experiences, or what is called narrative knowing.

    This concluding chapter summarizes the various perspectives represented by chapters in this volume and finishes with an assessment of adult learning theory today.

INDEX.