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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

This issue of the *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics* is one of beginnings and endings. In the latter sense, it is the final issue that will be published with our current printer.

Beginning with the Spring issue of 2006, *JLME* will be co-published by Blackwell. This move will allow our journal to be viewed by more readers (especially online) and provide greater accessibility to our journal both here in the United States and around the world. Our readers should expect virtually no change in the physical appearance of the *Journal* and no interruption of our publishing schedule. Most importantly of all, our commitment to bringing our readers the highest quality scholarship in Law, Medicine, and Ethics will go unchanged.

This edition of *JLME* also marks the first time we publish two symposiums in a single issue. This is a mark both of the high demand that the *Journal* holds with our authors and guest editors and also the great prestige of those who write for us.

One of our symposiums is guest-edited by Sandra H. Johnson, and explores the important issue of the treatment of pain in the Emergency Department. Many of the scholars in this symposium agree that pain is probably under-treated in Emergency Rooms across the world; questions arise, however, when the authors consider the related issue of prescription drug abuse, and how to combat this while still treating the most serious problem of pain. The guest editor, the authors, and ASLME all gratefully acknowledge the support of the Mayday Fund in the development of these important articles.

Our other symposium is guest-edited by old friends Lawrence Gostin, Colleen Flood, and Lance Gable, and concerns health care rights around the world. The comparative approach to studying health care has, in the past, suggested new ways of thinking about persistent medical and legal issues, as well as asked intriguing new questions. This symposium promises more of the same, continuing in the line of special symposiums in *JLME* dedicated to public health.

Finally, and most sadly, this issue will be the last in which Kathleen M. Boozang will serve as Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*. Kathleen served during a time of great success and change at the journal, and her influence on this institution will long out-live her tenure. Everyone at the American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics appreciates all of her hard work and wishes her all the best in the future.

Ted Hutchinson
Editor