Welcome From the Editors

Brent W. Ritchie

University of Queensland, Australia

Margaret Deery

Victoria University, Australia

As new co-editors for the Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management we would like to welcome you to the journal. First we would like to take this opportunity to thank the previous editor Paul Barron and the University of Queensland for their great contribution and previous support of the journal. We would also like to thank the previous editorial board members for their important service to the journal.

The journal has been in existence since 1993 and has built a reputation that we would like to see grow into the future. In the recent journal ranking exercise by the Australian Business Council Deans, in preparation for the Australian ERA (Excellence in Research for Australia), the journal was ranked a Tier B journal (behind A* and A journals), placing it in the top 50% of all tourism and hospitality journals ranked. Furthermore, a study by McKercher (2006) ranked the journal 13 from a total of 30 listed hospitality journals. We believe that this indicates recognition of a good quality journal and provides a strong future platform for the journal.

Since the beginning of 2008 the journal has entered into a new and exciting phase. It is now operated by CAUTHE (Council for Australian Tourism and Hospitality Education Inc) and continues to be published by Australian Academic Press. It is available in over 40,000 libraries worldwide, including 90% of the US college and university libraries, and every major research library across Australia and New Zealand. The journal has new co-editors, a refocused editorial advisory board that includes emerging academics from

around the world alongside well-established academics. It will continue to include both theoretical and applied research papers, and encourages the submission of the results of collaborative research undertaken between academia and industry.

The aims of the journal are listed on the website, which we encourage you to read. We intend to publish approximately 8 theoretical and/or empirical papers of between 5000 and 6000 words, as well as three to four critical commentary pieces of up to 2000 words from academics and industry per annum. Papers will be published online as soon as production is completed, so there will be no more waiting for issues to be finalised and released. Because of the new online status we encourage you to sign up for an RSS feed to alert you when the papers are published online. CAUTHE members will get free access to the journal as part of their member benefits, so we encourage you to become a member if you are not already a member.

All tourism and leisure related articles should be sent to Dr Brent W. Ritchie, while hospitality and events articles should be sent to Professor Margaret Deery. Papers with both tourism and hospitality or cognate areas can be sent to either co-editor. We look forward to your continuing support of the *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management* into the future.

Reference

McKercher, B., Law, R. & Lam, T. (2006). Rating tourism and hospitality journals. *Tourism Management.* 27, 1235–1252.

Correspondence

Dr Brent W. Ritchie, School of Tourism, The University of Queensland, Brisbane QLD 4072, Australia. E-mail: b.ritchie1@uq.edu.au

Journal of **Hospitality** and **Tourism Management**