

Editorials

Our New Deputy Editor

I would like to introduce the man who needs no introduction. David Ames has kindly agreed to be our new Deputy Editor. Until very recently, as we all know, he has brilliantly edited the Bulletin and has been our most competent Book Editor.

David was born an Englishman but moved to Australia as a child. He is currently an Associate Professor at the University of Melbourne. A psychiatrist's psychiatrist, he fits the bill in having the

perquisites of what we would all want in our own doctor. David is an able, academic physician who has brought great energy and creativity to the International Psychogeriatric Association (IPA). He is also a lover of opera and travels the world to find it. Perhaps his sense of opera buffa will help him in his work. Old Age Psychiatry, and its serving agency, the IPA, can be deadly serious at times.

So, welcome to your new position, David.

Robin Eastwood, MD
Editor-in-Chief
Cambridge, UK

A Bumpy Bumper Year

This year has been an extremely busy one for the Editorial Office in Cambridge, UK. The relocation from the US to the UK was an upheaval for the Journal. It involved the familiarization of new staff with new roles, the development of protocols appropriate to the UK setting, and the establishment of friendly and effective working communications between the offices on

both sides of the Atlantic. It took some months for the new Editorial Office to get up to speed. We thank our IPA colleagues, authors, and reviewers for their support during this transitional period.

However, things were barely in place after the move when an unprecedented number of manuscripts began to be submitted to the Journal, starting in the early

summer and continuing through most of the rest of the year. (A good flow of submissions is obviously an excellent state of affairs for a journal such as *International Psychogeriatrics* [IPAJ], ensuring the maintenance of high standards in publication.) In this case, however, their number was almost overwhelming, with the greatest challenge being the search for sufficient reviewers to evaluate the manuscripts. This resulted in delays in the review process and for authors awaiting news of their papers. A few manuscripts, on more esoteric topics, even had to be regretfully returned to their authors, as appropriate reviewers simply could not be located. While very much regretting the situation, we moved quickly to turn this state of affairs around.

We are now happy to report much better news. With the help and support of the Secretariat, IPA membership, editors, reviewers, and others, a variety of different

approaches to increase the number of reviewers is currently being put in place. The Editorial Office functions smoothly and the review process itself should be speeded up immeasurably in the new year with the introduction of new technology, including an electronic system for tracking each paper through every stage of its IPAJ career.

So, to all authors, please continue to send us your papers, which we hope to deal with expeditiously in 2002 and beyond, and to all reviewers and prospective reviewers, your contribution is invaluable, we look to your support and depend on your help. Onward and upward. And a Happy New Year to all our readers and contributors!

Judith Sylph, MA

Robin Eastwood, MD

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