

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Perhaps you were surprised when you received your last copy of our *JRRD*! Not only are we featuring an updated look, with a return of journal articles listed on the front cover and the outstanding artwork from our National Veterans Creative Arts Festival winner, but also an inside cover article describing the cover artist, Mr. Paul Fuginaga, and the inspiration for his award winning piece. We at *JRRD* are very proud to be associated with the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival and are even more proud to feature such noteworthy artwork on our cover. Inside you will also notice significant changes.

Our first Guest Editorial in issue 40(1), by Dr. Alexander Dromerick, challenges rehabilitation researchers to think in terms of Level A investigations to provide more definitive answers to the rehabilitation issues that face researchers and clinicians today. Rehabilitation is a rapidly expanding field, and *JRRD* is poised to present the highest quality research that rehabilitation has to offer to the world. This year, future Guest Editorials will guide researchers through the seemingly complex issues surrounding technology transfer, highlight the importance of the New Freedom Initiative in rehabilitation, and inform us of the changes at the Eastern Paralyzed Veterans Association (EPVA) following the untimely demise of Mr. Jim Peters (memorialized in 40(1)).

Also inside the white pages, you will notice that *JRRD* has revamped the Editorial Board in line with other cutting-edge journals, and we are very pleased to welcome our Scientific Advisory Board, Associate Editors, and Editorial Board members. Some names and faces are familiar and many others are new to *JRRD*, and we appreciate their continued and new support of the *JRRD* mission—To responsibly evaluate and disseminate scientific research findings impacting the rehabilitative healthcare community.

Another change, which is not evident from the hard copy, is our migration from the receipt of hard copy manuscript submissions and a mail-based review system to an on-line submission and review

system called *JRRD* Manuscript Central. Manuscript Central, a web-based system designed by ScholarOne, Inc., and customized to meet the demands of the *JRRD* review system, rapidly facilitates manuscript uploading, automatic conversion to PDF, and small JPEG files for text and figures, respectively. It also facilitates worldwide participation of peer review through the use of an Internet-based manuscript retrieval system. Our Editorial Board has welcomed this change in the submission and review policy, and they have taken on additional responsibilities for providing their expertise in choosing reviewers for the peer-review process and providing the Editor in Chief with their recommendations for manuscript disposition after the review process is complete. We are extremely grateful for the willingness that our Board has shown to adopt this dramatically different on-line system and format for the review process, and we strongly believe that their contributions will significantly enhance the quality of science presented in *JRRD*.

Finally, I would like to thank all of you who have facilitated my transition and have welcomed me most graciously to *JRRD*. This includes the *JRRD* Editorial Board, *JRRD* staff, and all the reviewers who have assisted me during my learning-curve period. The scholarly critiques, which result from the peer-review process, are the backbone of the scientific publication process and ensure the integrity of the fine articles published in *JRRD*. I extend my gratitude to each of you who has assisted *JRRD* during the past year, and I look forward to continued interaction with our Board and reviewers, resulting in publishing the most significant rehabilitation science. Thank you!

Stacieann C. Yuhasz, PhD
Editor