Editorial

It has been an honor to serve you as Editor-in-Chief for the past 4 years. During my tenure I have strived to increase the number and quality of submissions to the Journal. We have added a popular section, 'Invited Reviews', which features expert reviews and opinions on important and interesting topics in neuroepidemiology. This feature provides provocative epidemiological thought and new hypotheses, and bridges gaps that may exist between preclinical science and the application of neuroepidemiology in clinical practice and public health. Overall, the number of submissions to the Journal has increased by a factor of 2–3. Competition to gain a publication position in the Journal has stiffened and publications in our Journal are often referenced in other prestigious journals. The Journal continues to attract submissions from major epidemiological research groups throughout the world. We offer a home for publication of not only original studies and reviews but, in addition, methodological papers and brief notes about important observations in our field.

Early in my tenure I realized that what makes the Journal a success is the people who shape it. The process is about people who proffer quality, timeliness, pride and voluntarism. As Editor-in-Chief I was blessed with persons dedicated to the task of maintaining a high-quality publication. I am forever grateful to Dr. Milton Alter, Editor-in-Chief Emeritus. Dr. Alter handed me the gauntlet but maintained a tireless hand and eye as he reviewed and edited numerous manuscripts and went well beyond the call of duty. Dr. Alter served as an invaluable advisor and pillar. Kudos to the Editorial Board for their unselfish, timely and informative critiques. Rarely did an Editorial Board member ever decline to review a manuscript. I also wish to thank Ms. Angela Weber and Ms. Anke Rogal for excellence in the Editing and Production Department, Mr. Rolf Steinebrunner for general support and a special thanks to Dr. Thomas Karger for his overall leadership and substantial belief in the production of high-quality publications. Finally, I wish to thank Ms. Karen Keyes, the Managing Editor, for all her efforts which were central to the success of the Journal.

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What is next for the Journal? The Journal is in excellent hands. Dr. Gustavo Román will begin his tenure as Editor-in-Chief on January 1, 2001. Dr. Román is a neuroepidemiologist of international stature and will be injecting fresh ideas and energy into the Journal. Dr. Román and I have completed a successful transition process during the past 8 months that will assure continuity and momentum. I

look forward to reading future issues of the Journal that appear under Dr. Román's signature. Let us renew our commitment to the Journal so that it may continue to grow and develop and be a prominent oracle of neuroepidemiologists.

In gratitude to all,

Philip B. Gorelick, MD, MPH, FACP
Editor-in-Chief Emeritus