***Folia Phoniatrica et Logopaedica:* A Message from the New Editor-in-Chief**

I would like to thank Dr. Harm Schutte and the Board of IALP for nominating me to be Dr. Schutte's successor as Editor-in-Chief of *Folia Phoniatrica et Logopaedica* (*FPL*). After 6 years as *FPL*'s Assistant Editor for Motor Speech Disorders, and having served two terms as Associate Editor at the *Journal of Speech, Language, and Hearing Research*, first in the 1980s (when it was *Journal of Speech and Hearing Research*) and then roughly 20 years later, I believe I have the experience and tools to perform the job. Ultimately, of course, the readers of *FPL* and the scientific community in general render their decision on the value of the journal to their professional development and the knowledge base of the discipline. I am grateful to Dr. Schutte and the IALP Board for having the confidence in me to steward *FPL*'s standing and growth in our field throughout the next several years.

The bond between *FPL* and the International Association of Logopedics and Phoniatrics (IALP) is a remarkable result of the conceptual growth of our field. As the official journal of IALP, *FPL* encourages manuscript submissions from scientists in all countries, and is committed to representing scientific advances from multiple linguistic communities and cultures. The expanding literature on cross-linguistic research in all aspects of communication sciences, both clinical and basic, has demonstrated the advantage of knowledge from multiple languages relative to a single 'model' language. Moreover, *FPL* encourages manuscript submissions in all aspects of communication sciences and disorders, including speech, hearing, and language processes and their challenges in

both children and adults. As Dr. Schutte noted in his farewell editorial [*FPL*, 2010, issue 6], *FPL* remains unique among the increasing number of specialty journals in our field by virtue of its commitment to representing the multiple aspects of speech, hearing, and language research. There is nothing wrong with a specialty journal, but there is a lot right about a journal that publishes work in all areas of a discipline. For example, it is hard to imagine an article on cochlear implants not being of interest to scientists and clinicians working on speech production and language development, or an article on voice disorders in children not being of interest to professionals concerned with the role of pragmatics in communication and social development. These sorts of examples could occupy pages and pages of a journal such as *FPL*, and we hope, in fact, they will.

The team of Assistant Editors (AEs) for this successor editorial staff was selected for their experience, research accomplishment, and commitment to excellence in scientific activity. Three of the AEs – Drs. Paquier, Neumann, and Bosshardt – served under Dr. Schutte, and graciously agreed to continue editorial service in their respective areas of expertise – aphasia, hearing, and fluency. Three new AEs – Drs. McAuliffe, Klee, and Shrivastav – are responsible for manuscripts in their respective areas of expertise, namely, motor speech and its disorders, pediatric speech and language, and voice. I have encouraged the AEs to *edit*, to integrate and synthesize reviews and communicate their recommendations to submitting authors and myself as *editors*, not merely as

distributors of products of the review process. When requests for manuscript revisions are made, I am encouraging AEs to act on the revisions themselves, rather than sending the revised manuscript out for an additional round of reviews. The implications of this approach to editing the journal are twofold. First, the editorial standard for requesting a revision is likely to increase, as we expect a revision request to be a sort of conditional contract of eventual acceptability for publication, provided the revisions are deemed satisfactory;

and second, the editorial processing time – from submission to publication – should be reduced by eliminating multiple rounds of reviews.

I look forward to working with the Karger staff, the IALP Board, and the AEs; let's continue and enhance the tradition of *FPL* as the leading international journal for speech, hearing, and language processes and disorders, and as the professional face of the remarkable IALP. I promise to give my best effort to make this happen.

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