Essays on Citation Classics in *Brain, Behavior and Evolution*

Between 1977 and 1993, the indexing journal *Current Contents* published roughly 4,000 short essays on frequently cited papers, which it called 'citation classics'. Most of these essays are now available on-line. The original intent of the citation classics essays was 'to emphasize the human side of the research – how the project was initiated, whether any obstacles were encountered, and why the work was highly cited' (Eugene Garfield, <http://garfield.library.upenn.edu/classics.html>). As such, the essays were quite successful. Therefore, *Brain, Behavior and Evolution* is initiating an analogous series of essays on highly cited papers published in the journal since its inception in 1968.

The number of citations needed to qualify for being a citation classic varies from field to field and journal to journal, depending mainly on their history and size. For *Brain, Behavior and Evolution*, any paper that has been cited at least 100 times qualifies as a citation classic. As of today, roughly 50 papers meet or exceed this bar (an unofficial list is hosted by the J.B. Johnston club at: <http://jbclub.ning.com/page/bbe-citation-classics>). The two ci-

tation classics discussed in Dr. Schneider's inaugural essay in this issue have collectively been cited almost 700 times. Schneider's description of how these papers came to be and how they were received should be of interest to readers who are just beginning their careers, as well as those who now look back on how their science used to be.

Many of the *Brain, Behavior and Evolution* citation classics essays will be penned by one or more of the authors on the original paper. However, essays may also be written by former students and colleagues, or anyone who can provide relevant historical details and properly evaluate the paper's influence. If you are interested in writing a citation classic essay, please contact the editor. In general, the essays should be limited to 1,500 words and 10 references. Once published, they are fully citable and freely available on the journal's web site (www.karger.com/bbe), together with the original citation classic. The journal's editorial board and editor hope that you will find these publications interesting and valuable.

Georg F. Striedter, Editor-in-Chief