Notes from the Next Editor

When Barbara Rogoff invited me to assume the role of Editor of *Human Development*, I was honored by the invitation but needed to evaluate my activities and priorities. What ultimately led me to accept the responsibility was my recognition of the value of *Human Development* to the international community and to my own work over the last thirty years. Although Barbara Rogoff's term as Editor will continue through volume 45 (December, 2002), as Editor-elect, I am now receiving all new submissions.

Unlike other major developmental journals that are venues for the reports of empirical research, *Human Development* features contributions that are conceptual in nature. Empirical observations and findings are reported only for illustrative purposes, serving to raise theoretical issues, flesh out interesting and potentially powerful ideas, and differentiate key constructs. This conceptual orientation of the journal is critical to a field of study that is inherently interdisciplinary, one in which questions of 'what to study?' and 'how to study it?' differ widely by theoretical, disciplinary, and methodological commitments.

During her tenure as Editor, Barbara has set a high standard, working skillfully with authors, reviewers, her Advisory Board, and the staff at Karger. She has nurtured authors' efforts to refine promising manuscripts, recruited special volumes on key and well-leveraged topics, introduced an innovative 'Quick Advice' procedure, and made the difficult-to-make publication decisions in ways that have led to an impressive set of volumes. I'll certainly strive to emulate her record in the coming years.

Like Barbara and the prior Editors, I will have the good fortune of working with Karger. Karger has been quick to take advantage of new technologies that provide greater access to an expanding international professional community. Abstracts of the journal are distributed by e-mail and downloadable via the worldwide web [see www.karger.ch/journals/hde]. I will continue to support these innovations during my term. I will also be on the lookout for additional opportunities to develop strategies that enable greater and speedier communications among an international community of scholars.

With the change in Editorship, the Board of Advisory Editors will also be revised to provide fresh input to the journal's direction and enable wider participation by the academic community. In this regard, I'm delighted that Melanie Killen of the University of Maryland has agreed to serve as Associate Editor. She brings to the editorial process a strong background of research in social and moral development; an area that complements my own research background related to culture and cognitive development. We have worked well together in the past, and our recent conversations about plans for the journal bode very well for a continued era in which manuscripts and commentary that address the 'hot' and the enduring problems of the field find a welcomed home.

G.B. Saxe, Berkeley, Calif.

KARGER

Fax + 41 61 306 12 34
E-Mail karger@karger.ch
www.karger.com

© 2002 S. Karger AG, Basel
0018-716X/02/0451-0001\$18.50/0

Accessible online at:
www.karger.com/journals/hde