The End of Our Term: Change and Development

The publication of this issue of *Human Development* marks the end of our editorial term. We are pleased with the four volumes that we stewarded through the publication process, and we hope that you have benefited from the strong contributions that run through the journal's varied genres of scholarship – lead articles, commentaries and replies, and essay reviews of books. Throughout, contributors have offered new conceptualizations, sometimes fleshing out important ideas, and other times putting developmental ideas in the perspectives of related disciplines. Often the contributions have been novel, building on established scholarship in the field, and offering new perspectives or framing important new programs of work. One of the many distinguishing features of *Human Development* is that contributions cut across varied disciplinary perspectives; this continues to be a strength of the journal.

We want to thank a wide range of people for their support. Many on the Editorial Board have played important roles. We greatly appreciate the incisive and helpful reviews of manuscripts, comments and feedback on our direction, and assistance with publicizing the journal. The Editorial Board is the 'backbone' of the journal and their input and assistance has been invaluable. These scholars are listed in each issue of the past four volumes.

We also called on many scholars who were not on the Board for their wisdom, energy and time. They gave generously as they participated in the review process. As Editors, we were impressed again and again by the stellar quality of many of these reviews. Not only were authors the beneficiaries of these reviews; the journal's readership was as well, as most manuscripts that ended in publication went through a complex process of revision. We hope that authors of manuscripts that were ultimately rejected benefited from the review process. Indeed, even though a rejection decision is disappointing, we viewed the careful reviews and commentary as an important perk of submitting a manuscript for review and critique. The reviewers are listed in the last issue of the volume for which they provided a review.

We would also like to express our deep gratitude to our editorial assistants, David Lippman and Jennifer Langer-Osuna (UC Berkeley) and Heidi McGlothlin and Stefanie Sinno (University of Maryland). They enabled us to stay on track with the editorial process. They also interacted with authors, reviewers, and the staff at Karger Publishers, as manuscripts made their way through the review process and some ultimately to the publication office in Basel, Switzerland.

Finally, Karger Publishers in Basel, Switzerland, has provided our field with an important forum for scholarly discussion. They have done so through many editorial shifts, changes in publishing technology, and values about what constitutes important scholarship. It has been a pleasure to work with this outstanding group, and we are indebted to Thomas and Steven Karger, and to the members of their support staff, who have been instrumental to us in our interactions with Basel.

We leave the journal in good hands, with Larry Nucci (University of Illinois, Chicago) as the journal's new Editor and Terezinha Nunes (Oxford University) as the new Associate Editor. We are appreciative of the outstanding committee drawn from our Editorial Board that led to their nomination. The Editorial Board will be reconstituted in the near future. We wish the Editors the same edifying experience as they take on the task of facilitating new scholarship for the interdisciplinary field in which we all have a stake.

We want to take this opportunity to honor one of the longtime and active advisors to the journal who died suddenly this year – Giyoo Hatano of Tokyo, Japan. Dr. Hatano served on the Editorial Board of the journal for two terms and edited a special issue on Japanese perspectives on conceptual change during a third term. He was an important advisor to us, and his untimely death was a great loss. He will be missed not only by the journal, but by the complex network of international scholars whose lives and scholarship he touched. Larry Nucci and Terezinha Nunes will be publishing a *Human Development* special issue in Giyoo Hatano's honor during 2007, with Kayoko Inagaki, Naomi Miyake and Michael Cole serving as Guest Editors.

We end with a note of deep gratitude and appreciation for our experience as Editor and Associate Editor of *Human Development*. Our own scholarship was enhanced as we engaged with new and exciting ideas, trends, and programmatic pathways in the work of contributing authors and reviewers.

Geoffrey B. Saxe, Editor
Melanie Killen, Associate Editor