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From the editor

I believe that this is a particularly exciting time to be practicing in the area of ergonomics. In recent years, we have seen many changes and I believe that we will see many more in the next decade. The way we bring our services to clients is changing. The way we communicate with the public and with other healthcare providers is changing. The way we are compensated for our services and expertise is changing. Even the way we define our own professions and the nature of our services is changing.

Without question, change can be challenging and difficult — even frightening at times. But change also can be the catalyst for tremendous growth. In the midst of change, we discover exciting new opportunities. I believe that change and opportunity walk hand in hand only when they are accompanied by vision. Those who passively wait for and observe change can do nothing but

react to it. Those who look ahead — those who try to shape their own futures — are the people who are able to recognize the opportunities inherent in change.

I believe that one mechanism for reaching a vision is through effective communication, such as writing for a peer-reviewed like WORK. I welcome your manuscripts and feedback in crafting a vision

Karen K. Jacobs kjacobs@bu.edu karenjacobs@worldnet.att.net

(This 'From the editor' contains excerpts from Jacobs, K. Innovation: Beyond the Blue Event Horizon. Inaugural Address. Presented at the AOTA Annual Conference, Baltimore, Maryland, April 5, 1998.)