

## FROM THE EDITOR

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This issue's focus on physical disabilities and assistive technology is timely, indeed. Within recent months the historic Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) was signed. This bill, along with other important laws for people with disabilities, sets the stage for all persons who are disabled to fully participate in society. People with severe physical disabilities have been discriminated against and substantially excluded from the workplace, shopping malls, public transportation systems, and recreational outlets. This must stop. We believe the ADA is a major step toward righting these wrongs.

The second issue of the *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation* provides an outstanding set of papers for those working in rehabilitation set-

tings. There is a distinct emphasis on practical points in most of the papers, several of which include real-life case studies of how to apply assistive technologies in the workplace. This issue has a significant emphasis on consumer empowerment and rights as well.

The guest editor for this issue, Karen Franklin, brings a strong practical and astute set of perspectives to physical disabilities and assistive technology. She is highly oriented toward consumer needs and very functional in her approach to solving service delivery problems in the community. We are indebted to her for providing the leadership for this excellent issue.

*Paul Wehman*