

FROM THE EDITOR

In recent years, the field of vocational rehabilitation has borne witness to an explosion in new concepts, research, and innovations. Yet there have been few avenues through which these developments could be shared with rehabilitation personnel. As specialty areas expand and the responsibilities within these areas increase, rehabilitation personnel will continue to need up-to-date information. Also, recent laws, such as the Americans with Disabilities Act, and advances in technology and special education challenge rehabilitation professionals to keep abreast of the changing features of their profession. This is a very exciting time for those in the field of vocational rehabilitation, and it is paramount to have the best current information available. The *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation* was created to fill this need.

The journal will provide a forum for discussion and dissemination of information about the major areas that constitute vocational rehabilitation. Within each quarterly issue, we will provide a mixture of topics that are directed either to specific themes or to special populations. A guest editor who is an expert in the given area will usually provide leadership on different topic issues. The emphasis will be on articles that can be used immediately in the field. We will be including research studies, well-documented program descriptions, litera-

ture reviews, or critical position papers. The journal's focus will be to present material that will ultimately help the rehabilitation counselor and/or service provider in the community.

Within the next year we have identified an exciting agenda of topics. Issues focusing upon physical disability, rehabilitation facilities, and psychiatric impairment will be published with articles from contributors who are recognized as leaders in the field. Future topics may include vocational evaluation, visual impairment, and vocational training. We welcome your ideas.

In addition to articles, two departments will reflect the specific theme of each quarterly issue. The first, a section of book reviews, is edited by Dr. Ernie Pancsofar, vice president of the Institute of Human Development in Glastonbury, Connecticut. The second department is Rehabilitation Research Abstracts, edited by Michael West of Virginia Commonwealth University.

We have designed the journal as a forum for the exchange of information in vocational rehabilitation. "Exchange" implies a two-way process, and we welcome all suggestions for other aspects of exchange that would strengthen the *Journal*. Also, we would like to receive feedback from readers on future topics that they feel will be of interest to people in the field.

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