

Editorial

The *Journal of the Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology (JARA)* is the only peer reviewed journal devoted to rehabilitation for individuals with hearing loss. It has a long and prestigious history of publishing high quality archival papers and has served the community well. I am honored and proud to have been appointed as the new editor. On behalf of all our readers, I would like to thank the previous editor, Carol De Filippo, for her hard work and outstanding efforts.

The area of audiologic rehabilitation is constantly changing and broadening as new applications and further challenges arise. Yet often work related to rehabilitation does not make it into archival journals. As a new editor, my focus is to further improve the quality of the published papers, to ensure their relevance and appeal, and to strengthen the archival nature of the journal. I have three proposals which I hope will help to achieve this.

First, elicit more high-quality papers. One way to approach this is through invited submissions. Many excellent papers are presented at the annual institute but are never published in our journal. The authors of these papers will be encouraged to submit comprehensive versions of their papers to *JARA*. It is hoped that authors will respond well to personal invitations and like to take advantage of the opportunity to describe their work more comprehensively in a juried paper.

Second, given the individual nature of rehabilitation, case studies offer an excellent opportunity to describe successful and interesting rehabilitation techniques. Furthermore, they can be used to illustrate challenging issues facing the discipline. Case studies would help to widen the appeal of the journal to include more practitioners, both as contributors as well as readers.

Third, many of our graduate programs sponsor student research. These efforts may have very innovative ideas and important results, yet many do not make it to publication. In keeping with our efforts to grow our membership, I would like to promote active student participation in the peer review process. I ask for help from our membership involved in university activities to encourage their students to submit to *JARA*. This could help to increase the number of interesting and exciting papers appearing in our journal.

Finally, I would like to thank the Academy of Rehabilitative Audiology Board for my appointment. I look forward to the challenge and encourage all readers and contributors to continue to support *JARA*.

Kathleen M. Cienkowski
Editor