

Editorial

Each of us may remember a journal article or text from our days as a graduate student that had a lasting impact on our career in aural rehabilitation. For me that text was a monograph from *Volta Review* titled "New Reflections on Speechreading." The text was edited by Carol DeFilippo, a former editor of *JARA*, and Donald Sims. The monograph contained chapters by some of the finest researchers interested in the visual perception of speech. What struck me at that time was how complex and elegant the process of auditory visual speech perception was and how research on the topic extended across disciplines. The papers helped guide my professional path by pointing out that audition was just one contributor, albeit a very important one, to effective communication. In this issue of *JARA*, J.-P. Gagné reports on an investigation of processing speed to the proficiency of speechreading. Similar to the early works noted, Dr. Gagné looks outside the realm of audiology to consider the influence of the cognitive system on speechreading performance. I hope that this paper will spark an interest in auditory visual speech perception in young clinicians and researchers in our field.

On a more personal note, this issue will be my last issue as editor of *JARA*. It is with some regret and sadness that I step down from my role of editor. The last 6 years have been a tremendous learning experience for me. I note with some pride that *JARA* has transitioned to full online access, we have broadened our readership and authorship to include many outstanding individuals from the international aural rehabilitation community, and a new generation of young professionals is discovering the benefits of our journal. Dr. Sheila Pratt from the University of Pittsburg will be assuming the role of editor beginning January 2012. Dr. Pratt brings a wealth of experience as an editor to the position and I am certain that she will continue to herald *JARA* to be the premier source for research on aural rehabilitation. Many thanks for all who supported my work as editor. Most successful endeavors are the result of collaboration and cooperation and I know this to be true for my tenure as editor.

Kathleen M. Cienkowski
Editor