

Editorial

Those of you who have survived another 'interesting' year in the trenches may have noticed some differences about this year's journal, changes which I hope will improve your enjoyment of the publication.

Firstly, and probably most noticeably, the appearance is radically different (don't tell me you hadn't noticed!) – a change designed to keep our graphic designer happy as well as perhaps make the journal stand out and begged to be read by members and library users. In addition, the contents page has overflowed onto two pages, reflecting the rush (rash?) of contributions for this edition – an edition which could have been even larger if time had allowed, as a couple of papers arrived too late even for my 'flexible' deadlines (doesn't anyone believe me that June 30 is the 'real' deadline?).

The additional number of papers has allowed the introduction of a new section this year, namely a *Professional issues* section, which provides a forum for aspects of importance to guidance personnel without the need to meet the strict requirements of a refereed article. I hope that this section will become a regular and significant part of future journals. Speaking of future journals, a vacancy will occur at the AGCA National Conference in Hobart next September for the position of journal editor from 1996 onwards, as I will be stepping down from the position (time for 'new blood' as I'm almost 'dry').

Another new section this year incorporates reviews of new publications, mainly books and videos, of interest to school-based personnel. Thanks are extended to the publishers who have donated copies of the reviewed publications for retention by the reviewers. Those who wish to get in early for next year's reviews should contact me regarding new publications you may wish to review, and I will negotiate a complimentary copy for you.

In view of the major changes this year, and in light of the fact that it is three years since a formal evaluation of the journal has taken place, an evaluation form has been included in the final AGCA Newsletter for the year – your assistance in providing feedback and suggestions for future directions would be greatly appreciated.

This seems more like a newsletter than an editorial, but it does give me the opportunity to thank those people who have assisted in the publication – Cliff, the graphic designer; Gabrielle, Greg, and Robynne, the editorial panel; all those who took up the 'invitation' to review books/videos; those who provided unsolicited reviews; and those who took the plunge and submitted manuscripts for consideration for publication.

Happy reading and best wishes for the Christmas season.

John Carroll