

Editorial

I am honored to become the second editor of *Annals of Clinical Psychiatry*. Charles Rich, M.D., who has ably edited *Annals* since its inception 16 years ago, decided to step down. For a relatively small organization, such as the AACP, founding a journal was an audacious task. It required a substantial financial commitment from the organization, and untold hours from Dr. Rich and others to get the journal up and running. One of the early achievements was to ensure that the journal was listed in *Index Medicus*, which greatly enhanced its visibility, and led to more and better submissions. Dr. Rich set very high standards for scholarship, attention to detail, and ethical behavior that I will do my best to emulate.

This issue represents a relaunching of *Annals*. Our new partner is Taylor and Francis, and we are pleased with this opportunity to work with an experienced medical publisher. Our goal is to make the journal even better than it has been, and to gradually expand its readership. This cannot be done alone, and will require considerable effort to get the message out to investigators that *Annals* is an excellent journal to which to submit their manuscripts, offering a relatively rapid review, and an accelerated publishing schedule.

As for me, I am honored to edit a journal for an organization my mentor, George Winokur, M.D., helped found. He was a fine teacher, and taught me a great deal about the editorial process based on his experience as a member of the Editorial Board of the *Archives of General*

Psychiatry and Editor of the *Journal of Affective Disorders*. He never ruminated about his decisions; in watching him I learned to make the best decision with the data at hand.

The editorial policy set forth by Dr. Rich will remain in force. As has been noted on the front piece of the journal for many years, *Annals* is “designed to provide an international audience of practicing clinical psychiatrists with up-to-date information regarding the phenomenology and/or treatment of persons with mental disorders. The emphasis is on the results of controlled clinical studies.” The idea behind *Annals* (and the AACP), is to bring clinicians and researchers together in an effort to mutually enhance one another’s work. Research does not occur in a vacuum, and clinical care cannot progress without scientific advancement. George Winokur made very clear to all of us who knew him that both clinical care and research could—and should—coexist.

As part of the process of reorganizing *Annals*, I have brought in new members to the Editorial Board. Traditionally, the Board has consisted only of members of the AACP, but has now been broadened to include nationally and internationally known clinical researchers. Bringing new expertise to the Board will help *Annals* attract a wider audience.

I invite readers to contact me with their thoughts, ideas, and suggestions on ways to further improve *Annals* and to enhance its mission.

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