A New Name and a New Design

As the Council of Biology Editors has been evolving into the Council of Science Editors, its periodical also has been undergoing a transformation. The result is the publication you have before you. Like the Council, it retains the key elements of its former self. But also like the Council, its scope is broadening. In addition, it has a new name and a new look.

Editors have long railed against use of cryptic abbreviations, especially in titles. Yet how many times have colleagues outside the Council asked me, “What’s the ‘CBE’ in CBE Views?”! And I wonder whether I was the first to list awkwardly on my curriculum vitae, “Editor, CBE [Council of Biology Editors] Views”.

When it met last May, the CBE Views Editorial Board decided that the time had come for a more informative name. Through discussions during and after the meeting, the name Science Editor emerged. My thanks to all who contributed to those discussions. And welcome to the first issue of Science Editor.

For some years, interest in a fresher design has also existed. This time of transition seemed an appropriate one for making that kind of change as well. I am grateful to Tiffany D Inbody for developing the current redesign and to others in CSE for suggesting elements of it. Like the content of the publication, the design retains central aspects of its predecessor. Changes include a less cramped typeface (Goudy OldStyle, for those who might want to know), updated formats for the “Departments” and “News” sections, and footers that include the months of the issue.

Two pieces in this issue mark this time of transformation. One, an extensively researched and finely crafted article by former CBE Views Editor Martha Tacker, looks back at CBE Views and its predecessor, the CBE Newsletter. The other, the current “Views Afield” column by Lynn Dirk, focuses on two articles, both from 1987, that looked at the past and future of the Council. And an item in the “News” section announces the appointment of Seth Beckerman as CSE Web editor; I look forward to coordinating with Seth the content of Science Editor and that of the CSE Web site.

I look forward also to having many of you contribute to Science Editor. With the expanded scope of the Council, I especially seek pieces on editing in scientific fields other than biology and medicine and on editorial topics that span the sciences. As the last editor of CBE Views and the first of Science Editor, I feel privileged to continue to work with you.

Barbara Gastel
Editor