

◆ Focus Issues: Meetings and More

Welcome to this annual-meeting issue of *Science Editor*. In devoting much of the September-October issue to the Council's most recent annual meeting, *Science Editor* continues a tradition of its predecessor, *CBE Views*. We are pleased to present in this issue reports on the keynote and plenary sessions of the 2000 CSE annual meeting, summaries of several of the concurrent sessions, information on awards presented at the meeting, and other meeting-related content. We look forward to including reports on other concurrent sessions in future issues.

In addition to publishing annual-meeting issues, *Science Editor* hopes to continue the practice, begun by *CBE Views* nearly 20 years ago,¹ of publishing other theme issues. Such issues—known as focus issues and bearing a bullet beside the title of each article related

to the theme—gained particular prominence under Martha Tacker, editor of



Barbara Gastel

CBE Views from 1994 to 1998. During her editorship, topics of focus issues included training for scientific journal editors (April-May 1996), roles and training of managing editors (March-April 1997), communicating science to the public (May-June 1997), criteria for authorship of scientific papers (July-August 1997), and training manuscript editors (March-April 1998). More recently, focus issues or focus sections have addressed teaching and learning of scientific communication (January-February 1999)

and the relationship between journal editors and journal owners (July-August 1999).

Ideas for focus issues continue to emerge. Topics that have been proposed include editorial integrity versus business interests, the publication of electronic journals, and software for journal offices. Also, as the Council of Biology Editors has become the Council of Science Editors, the idea has arisen of publishing, under the rubric "editing across the sciences", one or more focus issues that compare aspects of editing in various scientific disciplines.

As editor, I welcome additional suggestions of topics for focus issues. I also greatly appreciate offers to write articles for such issues. Perhaps most, I welcome offers to guest-edit focus issues, in keeping with the precedent set during Martha Tacker's editorship. (You can reach me by tele-

phone at 979-845-6887 and by e-mail at b-gastel@tamu.edu.) Guest editors can be assured of my help—and my deep gratitude.

For the current issue, my particular gratitude goes to Ann Morcos, annual-meeting editor of *Science Editor*, who obtained reports for the more than 30 annual-meeting sessions this year and has been collecting the reports and ensuring their suitability. I also thank those who wrote session reports or contributed to the issue in other ways.

May you enjoy this annual-meeting issue and find it useful. And may many of you provide ideas for and assistance with other focus issues.

Barbara Gastel
Editor

Reference

1. Tacker MM. *CBE Views: a look back*. *Sci Ed* 2000;23(1):3-7.

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