Members of CSE range from aspiring science editors to extremely senior members of the profession. Accordingly, the readership of Science Editor ranges from those new to science editing to some of the most skilled and knowledgeable in the field.

At Science Editor, we try to serve that full range of readers. We seek materials that will be new and fresh even to highly experienced science editors. Meanwhile, we strive to make our content accessible even to those first exploring the realm.

We also try to draw on editors old, new, and in between as our authors. Editors with multiple decades of experience, such as founding members of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors and the Board of Editors in the Life Sciences, share their wisdom on these pages. Those in the middle editorial generation contribute many of the pieces. And newcomers, including graduate student interns, keep bringing much energy to this publication.

The current issue of Science Editor pairs an article by an energetic new editor-in-chief and one by a still-enthusiastic counterpart who has been serving for a quarter-century. Several months ago, Jorge A Santiago-Blay queried me about contributing an article on his initial experiences as a journal editor. The result, “Keeping Those Bugs in Check, or My First Year as Editor of Entomological News: A Personal Perspective”, appears on pages 75-76 of this issue.

Soon after receiving the piece by Santiago-Blay, I came across “Twenty-five Years Before the Masthead: Confessions of a Journal Editor”, by James T. Bennett, editor of the Journal of Labor Research. This recent article struck me as an interesting counterpoint to Santiago-Blay’s, and so a condensation of it (with editorial insights intact, but minus the labor-research specifics) appears on pages 77-81. I hope you will enjoy these articles and find them thought-provoking.

Other highlights of this issue include the first column in a new department, Unbound: Perspectives on Open Access (pages 103-104). My thanks to Editorial Board member Elizabeth L (Betsy) Fleischer for proposing this department, agreeing to oversee it, and serving as the initial contributor. Special thanks also to summer 2004 Science Editor intern Jamie De Gregory for preparing the table of Solution Corner columns edited by Della Mundy during her decade of service (pages 91-93) and to fall 2004 intern Claudia Clark for doing such extensive research for her article “The Author Who Never Was: Nicolas Bourbaki” (pages 82-86).

Whether you have been a science editor for a year, a decade, or a half-century, I hope you will consider contributing to these pages. If interested, please let me know; conference reports and book reviews can be good ways to break in, but submissions of all types are welcome regardless of whether someone has published with us before. Science editors of all seniorities belong among our authors as well as among our readers.