Applauding—and Encouraging—Initiative

Science Editor, as a volunteer publication, depends largely on the initiative of CSE members. Yes, as editor I do solicit specific contributions, but much of the breadth and vitality of *Science Editor* comes from the initiative of others. As 2007 begins, let me note some instances of initiative that are enhancing *Science Editor*—and let me encourage more such initiative.

The coverage of the 2006 CSE annual meeting, on which the last reports appear in this issue, reflects initiative of many members. Most notably, annual-meeting editor Jamie De Gregory, in her first year alone in this role, arranged for—and received—reports on all 28 annual-meeting sessions. Thus, readers of this issue and the previous two can obtain an overview of the entire annual meeting. Special thanks to Jamie, and to all who volunteered to cover annual-meet-ing sessions, for allowing us to achieve this goal.

It's not too early to volunteer for the 2007 pool of annual-meeting reporters. If interested, feel free to contact me at *b-gastel@tamu.edu* or Jamie De Gregory at *jcdegregory22@yahoo.com.* (For information on the 2007 CSE annual meeting, please see page 29 of this issue and watch the CSE Web site, *www.CouncilScienceEditors.org.*)

In addition to annual-meeting reports, two pieces in this issue reflect special initiative. The first—"Under the Cover: M Therese Southgate, Art, and the *Journal of the American Medical Association*", by Janet M Torpy (page 17)—originated as an idea from Cheryl Iverson, then our associate editor and now a member of our Editorial Board. The second—"Following the Inner Call: Life of a Fledgling Editor", by Dario Sambunjak (page 26)—arrived over my electronic transom one morning. I hope you enjoy these two pieces, for which I would not have known to ask.

Barbara Gastel

Looking to future issues, we have two fine author-initiated pieces in store. One, by Carrie Cameron, of the M D Anderson Cancer Center, offers guidance for working with authors for whom English is a second language. The other, by Nan Hallock, of the *Journal of the Association for Laboratory Automation,* presents strategies used by a small journal that emphasizes mentorship of authors. Other author-initiated pieces are among those that will commemorate the Council's 50th birthday this year.

Do you have an idea for a piece in *Science Editor?* If so, please be in touch with me, so we can discuss its potential. If you hope to write the piece yourself, we can work together to develop the plans, so the piece can best suit our publication and readership. If you prefer that someone else write the piece, we can discuss its scope and identify potential authors. Possibilities include *Science Editor* interns and Editorial Board member Kristen King, who has been contributing to *Science Editor* and has volunteered to write on suggested topics.

Thanks again to those who have been taking the initiative to enhance these pages. We look forward to more such contributions.

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