

## Editorial

This very special issue has powerful meaning as two important events converge. First, this is my last issue as editor. I took over the reins with the Fall 2002 from the very capable hands of Professor Barry Cournoyer and I pass on the leadership to the highly talented Professor Bill Barton. The journal is in good hands. It feels simultaneously as forever and just a moment since I took over as editor. A lot of work and creativity has resulted in top notch scholarship and conceptualization being disseminated to the profession and beyond. I am particularly proud of the special issues that have produced in-depth coverage of student assessment, the future of social work, and a critique of HBSE theories. I say goodbye with a tired smile on my face.

The second, more important event is that our journal begins its digital life with this issue. *Advances in Social Work* is a free-access electronic journal as of this issue. There are no more paper copies being produced as of this issue. We have pushed hard to get as many past issues uploaded to the *Advances* website so visitors to our website can look at not just the Spring 2008 issue but at the dozens of past articles. The Indiana University School of Social Work views this journal as one of our contributions to the profession. Hopefully we have made the journal more accessible and visible.

This issue continued the high standards and diversity of content that our previous paper copy issues have had. Khaja and Frederick describe a very timely issue, how to best work with Muslim communities and what they have learned about teaching about Muslim issues. Washington offers a nice discussion of attachment theory. Besthorn raises several important issues about how we live after 9-11 and offers a somber warning about legislative directions such as the Patriot Act. Miller and colleagues report on the findings from their study looking at dual degree social work

programs. Bhandari offers some important insights on how the Violence Against Women Act has helped immigrant women from South Asia get better protection and rights. Gallegos, a pioneer on cultural competence theory, and his colleagues offer a very provocative discussion on the status of cultural competence theory.

The reader will receive, as always with our journal, a range of thought-stimulating and informative articles. I encourage you to get a cup of coffee and curl up with your laptop on a comfortable chair. Let the paradigm shifting begin!