EDITORIAL

This issue is, to date, the most ambitious project of *Advances in Social Work*. The initial idea was to bring together top scholars in different fields of Social Work, challenge them to craft their best vision of the future of that field, and create a highly useful cross-section on the futures of Social Work. The special issue was intended to stimulate readers to consider the different angle that the diamond of Social Work could be viewed. Each angle is not sufficient to rate the quality of Social Work's future but, as a multi-faceted jewel, Social Work can truly shine in its brilliance. We believe that the special issue truly captures that future vision. Each article is unique and adds richly to our understanding of the future. I invite the reader to read each article then think about common themes or what surprises you the most. You are in for a real treat!

The issue is formatted from broader to more defined context. The first three articles are on broad areas: the profession, education, and ethics. The next four articles are still on a larger view: Social Work as a global, multicultural, macro, and policy issues. The next seven articles begin to emphasize frameworks of Social Work: evidence-based practice, strengths-based practice, technology initiatives, spirituality, practice and disabilities, aging, and rural practice. The next seven articles emphasize practice settings: families, child welfare, schools, health care, mental health, addictions, and criminal justice. The final article strives to synthesize the twenty-one articles into a discussion of themes and to suggest some issues to ponder.

The issue is an amazing collection and worthy of each student, clinician, or professor's bookcase. The articles prod us to consider Social Work's future and how we can best position ourselves to navigate the new peaks and valleys to best help our clients and our profession. I look forward in ten years to pulling my well-worn copy of this issue off the shelf and comparing what has actually happened to what was "predicted". But, for now, I believe this issue is our best effort to guide us in preparing for the future.