

## Editorial

Jérôme Rossier

Published online: 20 February 2015  
© Springer Science+Business Media Dordrecht 2015

This will be the sixth year that I have had the pleasure and honor to serve as Editor of our *Journal*. Thanks to the enormous amount of work done by our past Editor, Prof. Raoul Van Esbroeck, and his team for the editorial assistance and translations, and the work we are trying to do with my team, with special thanks to Dr. Sarah Stauffer, who has been assisting me for over 5 years, the *Journal* has charted a good course of development. Additionally, we publish all abstracts in four languages: English, French, German, and Spanish. Abstract translations are furnished by members of our Advisory Board and by members of the International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance. This also makes our *Journal* truly international. The work they do for us is important because it makes a part of the content of our *Journal* more visible and accessible to a very large part of the world population.

The *Journal* is abstracted and indexed in many databases, such as the Social Science Citation Index, SCOPUS, PsycINFO, ERIC, etc. Since the beginning of 2010, our *Journal* is also referenced in Thomson Reuters Web of Science (formerly ISI Web of Knowledge), which is currently the most significant database. In 2011 the *IJEVG* impact factor was 0.852; in 2012, it was 0.500; and in 2013, it was 0.966. Our impact factor is thus very similar to those held by the *Journal of Career Development*, 0.846, the *Career Development Quarterly*, 0.942, or the *Journal of Counseling and Development*, 0.810. The enlarged visibility of our *Journal* also produced an increase in the number of article downloads from Springer's website. We are very pleased that we have been able to publish many high-quality articles from different parts of the world. Indeed, one of our main goals as a truly international scientific journal is to promote research in our field from all continents. The number of submissions also has increased drastically these last few years with

---

J. Rossier (✉)

Institute of Psychology, University of Lausanne, Géopolis-4207, 1015 Lausanne, Switzerland  
e-mail: jerome.rossier@unil.ch

52 submissions in 2011, 80 in 2012, 93 in 2013, and 113 in 2014. It is of course very encouraging for an editor to see the number of submissions increase, but this also means that the acceptance rate is dropping because the number of articles published remained relatively stable: 16 in 2011, 13 in 2012, 13 in 2013, and 18 in 2014.

This very encouraging evolution also has meant an important increase in workload for the editorial team. For this reason, beginning in 2013, we appointed two Co-Editors, working at universities from two different continents, with different but complementary competences, Prof. Laura Nota, from the University of Padova, and Prof. Mark B. Watson, from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. The work they are doing for the *IJEVG* is fantastic, and I'm very pleased to benefit from their help and competence to run our *Journal*. In agreement with Springer, we also decided to increase the number of articles per issue. We used to publish 4 articles per issue, or slightly more if they were shorter. We decided to increase this number to 5 or 6 according to the number of articles waiting to be attributed to an issue. Moreover, publishing all accepted articles Online First increases their impact and makes them accessible very quickly. Finally, I used to briefly present each articles of an issue in my editorials. This could seem a little redundant with the abstract translations appearing in four languages. And the format of the editorials was quite similar from one issue to another, so I decided to change my contribution slightly by writing only one editorial at the beginning of each volume wherein I will describe and summarize some of the most important topics that were addressed in the past year and try to give some ideas about possible future directions in terms of practice, theory, and research.

For this reason, I will only briefly describe the content of this issue. In my editorial of the first issue of Volume 16 I will review the issues of the entire Volume 15. We have five regular research contributions within the current issue. This is the first time that we have contributions from four different continents: Asia, Europe, North America, and Latin America. It is also our great pleasure to announce that this is the first time we have published an article from Latin America. This contribution is very important and will be followed by many others.

This issue contains three empirical studies and two conceptual theoretical contributions. The first article of this issue was written by France Picard, Éric Frenette, Frédéric Guay, and Julie Labrosse, and presents the validation of a European inventory assessing vocational indecision in a North American cultural context. Vocational indecision is certainly a crucial state people have to manage when they have to make a vocational choice. For this reason, having validated tools assessing this indecision is very important. The second article, written by Yvette Piha Lehman, Marcelo Afonso Ribeiro, Maria da Conceição Coropos Uvaldo, and Fabiano Fonseca da Silva, presents a Brazilian approach to group career counseling. This contribution illustrates how a specific theoretical framework, developed in this cultural context, supports a specific approach to group career counseling. This article should be read with the related articles published in the special issue of Volume 13 in mind about *Group Career Guidance Counseling*, guest-edited by William A. Borgen and Marjatta Vanhalakka-Ruoho. The third article by Jasmi A. Talib, Amla Salleh, Salleh Amat, Simin Ghavifekr, and Azlinda M. Ariff presents a study about the effectiveness of a career educational module on the career

development of Malaysian college students. The authors also studied how gender may moderate this effectiveness. The fourth contribution of this issue, written by Isabelle Fort, Catherine Pacaud, and Pierre-Yves Gilles, presents a study about the moderation impact of job search experience and personality on the relation between the theory of planned behavior and job search intention in a sample of French jobseekers. The last article of this issue is an important theoretical contribution that presents, for the first time to my knowledge, how Amartya Sen's capability approach can be applied to the field of career guidance. Indeed career counseling is about helping people express their personal and contextual potentialities. Amartya Sen's capability perspective gives us a new understanding of the place and importance of career guidance, and how the individual is in a constant and complex interaction with his or her social and economical environments.

Concerning the topics I expect to be particularly important in 2015, I'm convinced that the issue of social justice will be crucial. This issue was addressed at the 2012 IAEVG conference in Mannheim, Germany, and in the special issue of Volume 14 of our *Journal*. The Announcements of Volume 14, Issue 1 contained the IAEVG Communiqué on *Social Justice in Educational and Career Guidance and Counseling* published after the 2013 IAEVG conference in Montpellier, France. Researchers in the field will continue to concentrate a lot of effort and to conduct studies on this topic. Indeed, educational and vocational guidance should increase social justice, as mentioned in the IAEVG ethical standards. Robertson's article in this issue is certainly an important contribution in respect to this topic. Another important topic will be how to help underserved populations—people that do not always have access to educational and vocational guidance, as well as how to increase the accessibility of our services. Another crucial topic in Western societies will be how to help people that face specific difficulties, such as people Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEETs). People in this population certainly need particular long-term or coaching intervention to help them re-enter the labor market. Finally, Prof. Laura Nota and I, with the contribution of many members of the Editorial and Advisory Board, among others, believe that one important event will be the publication of the *Handbook of life design: From practice to theory and from theory to practice*. This handbook has the ambition to present the life design paradigm in greater detail, which should allow us to understand and guide our vocational, educational, and career counseling interventions, to adopt an integrative approach, to focus on how practice contributes to shaping theories, and to focus on the implications of this new paradigm for practice.

To conclude, I would like to thank all of the readers of our *Journal* and all of the members of the International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance. You contribute to the success of our *Journal*. Without your close reading of the *IJEVG* and the ideas you bring forward in conferences and articles, we would not be able to continue to innovate and define the best practices for educational and vocational guidance on a global scale.

In keeping with good habits, I really hope that this issue and this Volume 15 will bring you a number of new and interesting insights that will contribute to your own professional development. We wish you pleasant reading in hope that this volume will stimulate your own thoughts and lead to other contributions to our *Journal*.