Editorial

In August, I started receiving manuscripts for *The Behavior Analyst*. By November, my admiration and respect for all previous editors of this journal had increased dramatically. Editors complete many time-consuming tasks, most of which I knew little about when I started (I still have too much to learn). I am fortunate, however, to be able to call on Sigrid Glenn and Ed Morris, the two most recent editors, for considerable help. I am also fortunate to be working with Jay Moore, the editor-elect of *TBA*, and Laura Fredrick, Assistant to the Editor, who has helped me in almost every part of this effort. My most difficult task so far has been to make decisions on manuscripts which are on topics far from my own direct area of expertise. In those cases, excellent, thorough reviews have made my job somewhat easier. With all this help, I hope that my efforts will be able to equal the accomplishments of my predecessors.

An editor of *TBA* typically only produces four issues over two years and each previous editor has worked to have a major influence on our field. Of course, an editor is limited by the quality of the manuscripts submitted (so far, so good!) and while Jay Moore and I are requesting submissions, many never appear. The normal flow of manuscripts must continue and with this editorial I am asking for submissions in some special areas and for help in other areas.

SUBMISSIONS

1. Controversy

Controversial issues are sometimes difficult to publish, but articles on such issues are often the most interesting part of a journal. They are difficult to publish because editors and reviewers tend to be conservative. They are valuable because they make us stretch our conceptions of issues and attend to defensible rebuttal. I welcome controversial papers and, with appropriate review, will publish some of

them in a special format. As the set of articles at the beginning of this issue illustrates (the main article by Jay Powell and R. F. Dickie is controversial and challenging), *TBA* will feature at least one main article in each issue, a series of responses to that article by other experts in the field, and the author's commentary on the responses. All, as a series, will appear within the same issue. This format pays homage to that of *The Behavioral and Brain Sciences* and hopefully will be as useful to behavior analysis as the articles in *BBS* are to all behavioral and brain sciences. This first series began under the editorship of Sigrid Glenn (who must share only the credit) and will continue if suitable articles are submitted to the journal. A second series, being coordinated by Jay Moore, is planned around the 30th anniversary of the publication of Sidman's *Tactics of Scientific Research* and will appear in the Fall issue. If you have a manuscript which you feel is suitable for this format, or are considering writing one, please do so and submit it to *TBA*. You may also have some ideas for such articles and I welcome your suggestions.

2. Analyses of Applied Issues

I have been disappointed that so few articles analyzing applied issues have appeared in *TBA*. Of course, this probably occurred because few have been submitted. If the lack of articles on applied issues is due to some impression about their suitability for *TBA*, let me dispel that impression immediately. I am very interested in receiving manuscripts on applied issues. Please submit manuscripts which are critical reviews of the literature in various applied areas and manuscripts which address issues and present suggestions for future improvements in areas (of course, such manuscripts on basic research issues are also more than welcome). Send manuscripts that analyze technologies that have been proven effective but may not be considered by

some to be behavior analytic. You might show how these could be (or already are) behavior analytic or you might show how behavior analysis can advance by looking at other effective technologies (or the danger of attending to them). Send in ideas for new applied texts that could be reviewed and let me know if you want to review them. There are many other possibilities (except that *TBA* does not publish original experimental studies); be creative and submit those manuscripts on topics of which you would like behavior analysts to be aware.

3. *Not For Professors Only*

This will be a new section at the end of each issue of the journal. While *TBA* has occasionally published pieces that are humorous or off-beat, I plan to make this more regular (we shouldn't always take ourselves too seriously). When I teach behavior analysis, I am always looking for jokes, stories, anecdotes, excellent applied examples (especially of complex topics), improvements for my lessons, analogies, and, in general, ways to bring behavior analysis to life for my students. I think it is within the purposes of *TBA* to present these items to readers. You will not always find them useful, or even funny. If one or two help to improve your classes or workshops, or even if one is just something to tape to your door, I think they serve a good purpose. In this first issue, Dick Foxx presents a brief dictionary; you will enjoy some of his redefinitions.

If you have an original story, anecdote, analogy, example, lesson plan, joke, or whatever, send it to me for consideration in this new section. There should be no introduction or commentary; the item should stand on its own. It will be published with a title and your name and affiliation; more than one will often ap-

pear on a page. The submissions, like regular journal articles, will be reviewed (but by fewer reviewers) to insure they are behavioral, accurate, not insulting or off-color, and of likely interest to readers. I look forward to seeing the creative efforts of my colleagues.

GUEST REVIEWERS

The Board of Editors of *TBA* does not have enough members to review all of the manuscripts submitted to the journal. As in the past, I will be asking others to serve as guest reviewers. I am limited in that I can only select individuals I know or know of. This may functionally serve as an "old boy/girl network" but it is not intentional. I want other scholars in the field that I do not yet know to serve as guest reviewers for *TBA*. While it is hard work to review submissions to the journal, many of those who do an excellent job are later nominated for the Board of Editors. If you are interested in reviewing manuscripts for *TBA*, send me your name, address, telephone number, last degree, and a list of specialty areas on which you have expertise.

READERS

The Behavior Analyst should serve its readers in many ways, but those of us working on *TBA* must also be served by our readers. I would like to hear from you. What are we doing well or not so well? How could we improve? When you have an idea, a suggestion, or would simply like to write me with a comment, please do. I am proud to be the editor of *TBA* and I am confident that with your help the journal can be continuously excellent.

Samuel M. Deitz
Editor