Editorial

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Last year was special for our *Journal*. We had two special issues on very important topics and were able to publish articles from all continents. Professor Dr. José Ferreira Marques, who past away last July, was very involved and did a lot to promote international cooperation. As a former president of the *International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance* (IAEVG), he cultivated ties between the different European countries and opened boundaries for discussion and reflection among different continents. He also worked with Donald E. Super among others. His commitment to the IAEVG and the support it has given to our *Journal* was fundamental to its development at the time of its creation by Raoul Van Esbroeck. I would thus want to show my gratitude and share my appreciation to our former president and important figure in our field as well as my support to all his family members and relatives for their loss. The IAEVG executive comity's support to our *Journal* is still very strong and I had the opportunity to present its evolution last September at the IAEVG general assembly in Tsukuba, Japan. The fact that we publish a broad range of topics in our field, theoretical as well as empirical work, using different types of methodologies, and conducted in different region of the world was greatly appreciated.

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* has also been referenced in Thomson Reuters Web of Science. Unfortunately, our impact factor decreased to 0.654 last year (in 2013 the impact factor was of 0.966). Nevertheless, we are quite optimistic about the future and hope to get an impact factor close to 1 in the next years. It would indeed better reflect the

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quality of the contributions of our *Journal*. Even if our impact factor decreased slightly, it remains similar or higher to those held by similar journals such as the *Journal of Career Development*, 0.891, the *Career Development Quarterly*, 0.533, or the *Journal of Counseling and Development*, 0.545. The constant increasing visibility of our *Journal* induced a higher number of articles downloaded from Springer's website and an increase of the number of article submissions. We received 108 submissions in 2015 and accepted 20 articles. The rejection rate was of 80.2 %. The number of articles published per year increased slightly since 2010 as we published 17 contributions last year. Moreover, we observed that the waiting time from acceptance to publication increased significantly up to 18 months these last years. For this reason, we decided with Springer to increase significantly the number of contributions per issue, this one containing 8 articles instead of the usual 4. In the future, our goal would be to have a period of about 12 months between the time of acceptance and publication.

The first issue of Volume 15 included five regular research contributions from four different continents: Asia, Europe, North America, and Latin America. That issue contained three empirical studies, and two conceptual theoretical contributions. The first article presented the validation of a European inventory assessing vocational indecision in Canada. Vocational indecision is certainly a crucial state people have to manage when they have to make a vocational choice. It may also be a state that allows changes and choices. The second article presents a Brazilian approach to group career counseling. Group counseling is a frequently used setting in our field, and we devoted a special issue about this type of intervention in volume 13. However, interventions have to be adapted to the cultural context to be meaningful for practitioners and users. The third article presented a study about the effectiveness of a career educational module on the career development of Asian college students and how gender may moderate this effectiveness. The fourth contribution presented a study about the moderation impact of the job search experience and the personality on the relationship between the planned behavior theory and the job search intention. This study is certainly important considering that job search intensity is directly linked to the ability to find a job. The last article of that issue presented how Amartya Sen's capability approach can be applied to the field of career guidance and allowed to develop a new perspective on educational and vocational guidance.

Issue 2 of Volume 15 was a special issue edited by Mark Watson, Laura Nota, and Mary McMahon. It included 5 contributions from colleagues from all over the world working on children's career development. Some contributions adopted a traditional perspective studying career interest development, career exploration, and children's perception of knowledge about occupations. Others tried to capture more dynamic aspects of children's career development. Every contribution emphasized the importance of taking into account the context, in particular the familial context, in order to capture and to understand this development. One crucial aspect was to understand how counselors could help children to better take advantage of their social and cultural environment's resources. This special issue was certainly a success in terms of the contributions' quality and of the impact it will have on all the practitioners and researchers working with children.

Issue 3 of Volume 15 was a very special issue. For many years, Julio González Bello asked Raoul van Esbroeck, the founding editor, and later myself about the possibility of publishing a special issue on Latin America. We were quite reluctant for two main reasons. First, it is always a risk for an international journal to focus on a specific region. Indeed, the contents may be relevant for the practitioners of that region but not for those coming from a different one. Since our ambition is to have a potentially interesting content for everyone, we always try to publish a wide diversity of articles, theoretical and empirical, qualitative and quantitative, from different regions of the world, etc. Second, we used to receive only very few submissions from Latin America. In these conditions, it seemed very hazardous and risky to plan such a special issue. However, after several discussions with Julio González Bello, he convinced me to go on this adventure. We were not certain to reach our goal and to get enough high quality submissions. However, we also have to acknowledge that, in the mean time, our Latin American colleagues were always more active in our field and trying more and more frequently to publish in international journals. We thus ended up with a large pool of very interesting submissions. Unfortunately, we had to reject some of them, but were able to publish 5 solid theoretical, clinical, and empirical contributions. Two theoretical contributions explained how the cultural context might have an impact on how educational and vocational guidance should be considered and conducted. One clinical contribution presented a specific intervention developed in Brazil. Another contribution presented the undergraduate training program for school and career counselors in Venezuela, and an empirical contribution used the sophisticated Rasch model to analyze a career choice self-efficacy scale. Altogether, this issue was very balanced and showed many of the work facets examined by educational and vocational counselors in this continent, and of the research done in this part of the world. Considering that the IAEVG has many members from Latin America, this issue seemed very important to us. I'm convinced that it will encourage our colleagues from this region of the world to submit their work more frequently to our *Journal*.

In 2016, we will have two issues with regular articles. This first issue will include eight very strong articles. We will have three quantitative studies conducted on large samples, with studies conducted in several regions of the world. One qualitative study will analyse the factors that may explain engagement and continuation through apprenticeship, a very actual and important topic nowadays. The issue will also contain two applied empirical and theoretical contributions. Finally it will include a literature review about employability. Volume 16 will also contain a special issue about inducing and measuring change in vocational guidance and career counseling interventions. Vocational psychology is used to describe peoples' career pathways in terms of vocational development and career transitions. The contemporary world offers less predictable careers, and individuals are expected to self-manage career transitions. For this reason, it is expected that people be more flexible, employable, and able to adapt. Vocational guidance and career counseling interventions can help those having difficulties in self-managing their career because they are designed to help them manage their career transitions, and also to increase their resources to do so. For this reason, vocational guidance and career

counseling are also about inducing change. Professor Dr. Susan Whiston, Indiana University, United States, and myself will edit this special issue. It should include contributions about measuring and inducing change, describing patterns of change, and identifying the agent of change in vocational guidance and career counseling interventions. We are convinced that this issue will be very interesting and important for our field, because the problem of change is central to our practice.

Finally, we would also like to remind you about the next conference of the IAEVG that will take place in Madrid, Spain, on November 15–18, 2016. The conference should focus on a variety of topics, among which is the promotion of equity through guidance and counseling in our contemporary globalized world. On the IAEVG website, you will also find the communiqué on educational and career guidance for displaced migrants, written in Tsukuba, Japan, during the last IAEVG conference, in September 2015 (http://iaevg.net/wp-content/uploads/formidable/IAEVG_CommuniqueMigrants_2015_English2.pdf).

To conclude, I would like to thank my two Co-Editors, Prof. Laura Nota, from the University of Padova, and Prof. Mark B. Watson, from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, as well as the members of the editorial board and of the advisory board, all the very numerous reviewers from all around the world, all of the readers of our *Journal*, and all of the members of the IAEVG. You all contribute to the success of our *Journal*. I hope that this Volume 16 will bring you a number of new and interesting insights that will contribute to your own professional development. We wish you a pleasant reading with the hope that this Volume will stimulate your own thoughts and lead to other contributions to our *Journal*.