Editor's Notes

By Dan Surry, University of South Alabama

It's my pleasure to take over as Editor of *TechTrends* beginning with this issue. My most important first task is to thank Dr. Abbie Brown for the tremendous job he did as Editor the previous three years. Dr. Brown effectively built on the work of previous Editors and made numerous important contributions during his tenure that have made *TechTrends* a better, stronger, better designed, more respected, and more relevant journal. He was also extremely helpful, kind, and patient in guiding me through the editorial transition process. Everyone in our field owes him a large debt of gratitude for his remarkable efforts on our behalf – be sure to thank him the next time you see him!

It is quite an honor for me to serve as the new Editor for *TechTrends*. I can't think of two organizations that are more widely respected and important than the Association of Educational Communications and Technology (AECT) and Springer, the outstanding company that publishes and distributes the journal. I am extremely fortunate that the *TechTrends* team is made up of a team of incredibly talented people, ranging from Phil Harris at the AECT office, to the AECT Board Members, to the Editorial Board, Column Editors, and Reviewers. I am especially thankful that Design Director Ned Shaw and Departments Editor Mark Lauer will continue to make outstanding contributions to the journal. Also, Dr. Charles B. Hodges from Georgia Southern University will be joining the team in the role of Associate Editor. Dr. Hodges will be working primarily with the innovative "Spotlight Issue" concept that Dr. Brown started. Each member of the *TechTrends* team plays a vital role in the success of the journal.

Perhaps the most important thing I can say at this time is that *TechTrends* needs your help. More than any other journal in our field, *TechTrends* is your journal and your help is both wanted and needed. There are three primary ways that you can help. First, you can help by doing great research, both basic and applied, and submitting the results of that research to *TechTrends*. Like any journal, *TechTrends* is only as strong as the articles that are submitted to us for review. Whether you are one of the giants in our field with a wildly successful publication career, a grad student in your first semester, or a practitioner working to make innovative use of technology for learning, *TechTrends* wants (and needs) you to send us manuscripts. I would like to make a special plea for our colleagues outside the United States to send manuscripts to our journal. Second, you can help *TechTrends* by being a reviewer. I have worked with other journals in the past and, no disrespect intended to anyone, I would stack the quality of the reviewer pool for *TechTrends* up against any other reviewer pool in our field. However, as good as our reviewers are, we need more reviewers. You can't have a great journal without great reviewers. Third, you can help by spreading the word about *TechTrends* to your colleagues. We believe our journal plays an important role in the scholarly and practical development of our field and we want others to know about us. You can spread the word by assigning articles for your students to read, citing articles published in *TechTrends* in your own work, talking about relevant articles in meetings and planning sessions, and passing along particularly interesting articles to your co-workers. Also, please check with your local library and see if *TechTrends* is available. If not, please ask them to add our journal.

Once again, it's a great honor for me to be the new Editor of *TechTrends* and to be a part of the outstanding team that works together to bring this journal to you six times a year. If you want to help by being an author, a reviewer, or spreading the word, please email me (dsurry@usouthal.edu). Thank you.

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