

Editorial

Past successes and a bright future

The end of any successful era always brings with it a mixture of emotions – sadness at what you are leaving behind, pride as to what you have achieved and an element of excitement as to what the future may hold. This statement accurately describes the feelings of the *Gold Bulletin* editorial team as we approach the end of 2010.

The reason for this? Issue 43(4) is to be our final issue produced and published 'in house' at the World Gold Council. We publicised our decision in the last issue of the journal, so for those of you yet to read the thinking behind this, we direct you to the *Gold Bulletin* website and issue 43(3). This editorial is dedicated to past successes and a bright future.

The 'modern' era of *Gold Bulletin* started in 1996, when Christopher Corti took over as Editor-in-Chief of the journal. He quickly brought in David Thompson as the technical editor, and together they began turning the journal into the highly respected, relevant publication you all know today. When David retired he was replaced by another highly regarded scientist Patricia Harris who continued to build on David's and Chris's work. *Gold Bulletin* went from strength to strength, obtaining excellent 'Impact Factors' and publishing many classic, groundbreaking papers on gold science and technology. In 2009, we were saddened to report the untimely passing of David Thompson, who had remained on the Editorial Board. This time also coincided with Chris's retirement as Editor. *Gold Bulletin* would not be what it is today without Chris's and David's contributions.

As we explained in our recent announcement, scientific publishing is becoming an increasingly complex, time consuming business. Our newly formed partnership will mean that most of the technical aspects of publishing are performed by Springer and so, with sadness we confirm that Patricia Harris will not be continuing in her role as

Technical Editor in 2011. We know that many of you have had considerable dealings with Patricia and will wish to thank her for a great contribution to the technical editing of the journal over many years.

Finally, at this point, there is one other important group of people to acknowledge and thank, the team at Trait who design and publish the journal's content. They have done a remarkable job over the years and we are sorry our new business model means our partnership comes to a natural end.

So, what of the future? With Richard Holliday recently taking the reins as Editor-in-Chief and Trevor Keel, who joined the WGC in 2009, becoming Associate Editor in late 2010, this is very much a new era. With the support of the Editorial Board we are committed to continuing to deliver a high quality, relevant publication valued by academic and industrial researchers worldwide. The partnership with Springer will help facilitate this, opening up an enormous new potential market for the journal. This coupled with the ongoing groundswell of activity in the field of gold science leaves us in the enviable position of being able to build on the many past successes of our colleagues and friends who have edited the journal before us; Chris, David and Patricia.



Richard Holliday



Trevor Keel