

Editors' commentary

Chris Schatschneider · Donald L. Compton

Published online: 18 May 2007
© The International Dyslexia Association 2007

Volume 57 marks a change of editors for *Annals of Dyslexia* (*Annals*). We are very excited to have this opportunity to serve The International Dyslexia Association (IDA) by coediting *Annals*. However, we owe a large debt of gratitude to the outgoing editor, Che Kan (CK) Leong. It is our opinion that he has had a profound and long-lasting effect on *Annals* during his 5-year editorship. His tireless commitment to *Annals* has resulted in several major changes. One of CK's most significant actions as editor has been the modernization of the journal. CK worked hard to have *Annals* listed on the Social Sciences Citation Index. This has provided *Annals* with the opportunity to disseminate cutting-edge research related to dyslexia to a wider and more diverse set of readers. In addition, CK advocated strongly that the journal should come out more than once a year. As a result *Annals* is now published twice a year, which has significantly decreased the lag time between acceptance and publication of manuscripts. Finally, through CK's work with the leadership at IDA, *Annals* will now be published by Springer and will be available for the first time electronically. You will notice over time the benefits of having a professional publisher of *Annals*. The new cover is just the start! Accepted articles will now be accessible to readers before publication via the Springer website. In addition, Springer's electronic journal service will make it far easier for libraries to purchase electronic subscription to *Annals*. All of which should increase the visibility of *Annals*. Finally, Springer has developed a modern website with an electronic submission portal, which should increase the ease with which manuscripts are submitted and facilitate more timely contact between authors, editors, and reviewers. We see this relationship between *Annals* and Springer as a very positive development and would like to thank CK for his efforts to make this a reality.

C. Schatschneider (✉)
Department of Psychology, Florida Center for Reading Research, Florida State University,
227 North Bronough Street, Suite 7250, Tallahassee, FL 32301, USA
e-mail: schatschneider@psy.fsu.edu

D. L. Compton (✉)
Special Education Department, Peabody College, Vanderbilt University, P.O. Box 328,
110 Magnolia Circle, 418C MRL, Nashville, TN 37203, USA
e-mail: donald.l.compton@vanderbilt.edu

Our goals for *Annals* over the coming years both build upon and expand those articulated by CK. Upon taking the reins of *Annals*, CK made a strong commitment to promote crosslinguistic studies in dyslexia and related areas and to encourage the publication of high quality papers on research and practice. During the last 5 years the overall quality of the research published in *Annals* has continued to improve, which is based upon the citation per publication rate for articles appearing in our journal. In his final letter to the editorial board, CK reported that of the 26 journals in special education, the impact factor ranged from 0.175 to 1.704 with *Annals* rated at 1.250. There were only four journals rated above *Annals*. This issue includes four articles that were acquired during CK's tenure as editor. We will continue to pursue CK's agenda of identifying the highest quality studies for publication in *Annals*. We are also committed to the idea that *Annals* should endorse an international perspective of dyslexia. For as CK stated, "dyslexia knows no national boundaries and there are processes of learning to read, spell and write that are common across languages and writing systems and there are also specific processes." We hope over the coming years to also promote the publication of the finest crossdisciplinary studies that examine the etiology and treatment of dyslexia. We are also interested in using *Annals* to advance high quality studies that seek to understand the nature of risk and prevention of dyslexia in both monolingual and bilingual populations.

Finally, we would like to thank those who have agreed to serve on the new editorial board. Their commitment to *Annals* and the peer review process is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Chris Schatschneider and Donald Compton