Editorial

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Four years ago marked the first issue of the *International Journal of Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education* (IJRUME). At that time we likened the birth of IJRUME to that of the birth of a new baby. On such occasions there are usually a number of people who have assisted along the way in making the birth a happy event. Such was the case with the start of IJRUME. And as a child grows and the family changes, so does a journal. Here we mark a few important changes in the life of IJRUME. Founding Editors Karen Marrongelle and Mike Thomas are stepping down from their role as co-Editors-in-Chief. Karen has taken on new a position at the National Science Foundation in the United States and Mike has begun his professionally active retirement in New Zealand. As a field we give our deepest thanks to Karen and Mike for their inspiration to begin IJRUME, their perseverance to see it through, and their many years of commitment to get the journal to the place where it is now.

And with the departure of Karen and Mike comes two new mentors and guides for the growing and maturing journal – Ghislaine Gueudet and Elena Nardi. Ghislaine and Elena have a long and accomplished history in university mathematics education research and, like new teachers that a child encounters as she grows, they will oversee the continued health and well-being of the journal. Ghislaine, who hails from France and Elena from the United Kingdom (with roots in Greece), bring a welcomed new and deeper international presence and perspective to IJRUME. Ghislaine and Elena are both leaders in the university mathematics education research working group at the biennial Congress of the European Society for Research in Mathematics Education (CERME) and in the relatively new biennial International Network for Didactic Research in University Mathematics (INDRUM) conference, the third of which will take place in Tunisia in 2020. We hoped IJRUME would have a passport with stamps from across the globe, and we are happy to see this taking place.

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IJRUME will also have a new book review Editor. After four years of superb work in this position, Lara Alcock is stepping down to continue her research, her service to her university, and to raise her own new child. We cannot thank Lara enough for her contributions to the journal and for the high bar she set for all of us. And as Lara steps down we welcome our new book review Editor, Greg Oates. As many of you know, Greg is a mathematics education leader in the southern hemisphere and will continue to grow the international visibility of IJRUME across the southern hemisphere. The new Editor-in-Chief team of Ghislaine, Elena, and Chris looks forward to working with Greg and furthering connections with the biennial Delta conference, which next takes place in Fremantle, Australia in November 2019.

We also want to thank the continued support of the Editorial Board. It is important for the field that the journal be truly international in its scope and not be closely linked to any particular country, region or group. Having so many highly respected board members who represent many different geographical areas is key to the journal's success.

Lastly, we are pleased to introduce a new vehicle for publishing in IJRUME – a research commentary. As a child grows she may get a new bicycle that offers her new ways to explore her world. Similarly, this new feature will be wheels for the community to explore new and different realms of scholarly work. In this issue we roll out these new wheels with a contribution from Sandra Laursen and Chris Rasmussen that examines two different inquiry traditions, including reflections on future research directions for inquiry based mathematics education. We intend research commentaries to be scholarly contributions that discuss connections between research, practice, and policy; analyze trends and growth in the field; reflect on the theoretical and methodological developments; or engage in scholarly debates centered on significant issues related to research, practice, assessment, policy, technology, etc. As with all other publications in IJRUME, research commentaries undergo a double blind peer review process. More details on the research commentary are forthcoming on Springer's IJRUME website.

The field of research in undergraduate mathematics education is steadily growing. When IJRUME started there was the nascent university mathematics education working group at CERME and INDRUM had yet to convene its first conference. Both of these biennial meetings now attract nearly 100 participants. The annual RUME conference in North America now boasts over 350 participants and the biennial Delta conference typically has over 100 participants from more than a dozen countries. We close this editorial with a comment from Tommy Dreyfus who, many years ago, was asked by Springer if there was a need for IJRUME. His reply was prescient: "If you had asked me if we need another math ed journal, I would have said 'no'. But we need *this* journal." Thank you everyone for your support of IJRUME and the many high quality manuscripts we receive. Keep them coming!

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