EDITORIAL

Letter From the Editor

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This issue launches my last year as Editor in Chief of JIBS. By the time that you read this letter the AIB Executive Board will have announced the selection of my successor who I strongly endorse and with whom I will work closely to manage a very smooth transition.

The issue leads off with the 2006 JIBS Decade Award and commentaries. The award was announced at the highly successful AIB annual meeting in Beijing China. As specified in the by-laws, the JIBS Decade Award Selection Committee consisted of the current and past program chairs of the AIB annual meeting, Professors Mary Ann von Glinow and Yves Doz. The committee was chaired by Professor Timothy Devinney and me as ex officio.

The Award Winners were Professors Marjorie A. Lyles, Indiana University and Jane E. Salk, University of Texas Dallas, for their paper 'Knowledge Acquisition from Foreign Parents in International Joint Ventures: An Empirical Examination in the Hungarian Context'. The award was made during a plenary session chaired by Professor Devinney. Following the two commentaries by Professor Klaus E. Meyer, Reading University, and Professor Ruth V. Aguilera, University of Illinois, Professors Lyles and Salk presented their retrospective on their award winning paper. Following the formal presentation, Professors Lyles and Salk were each presented with a check for \$1,000 and the assembly adjourned to a reception in their honor hosted by Palgrave Macmillan, the publisher of JIBS. This issue publishes Professors Lyles and Salk's retrospective – 'Gratitude, Nostalgia and What Now? Knowledge Acquisition and Learning a Decade Later', the two commentaries by Professors Meyer and Aguilera, and a reprint of the original award winning paper. Research on knowledge sharing and learning in IB and in strategy and organization research is continuing to explode, especially as companies are increasingly embarking on the global sourcing of talent and the offshoring of product and process innovation activities. It is a credit to Professors Lyles and Salk that their research anticipated the emerging importance of knowledge sharing and learning in the context of globally dispersed organizations. I am also extremely gratified that this award recognizes the importance of case studies in IB research, which are often considered difficult to publish in a top tier journal such as JIBS. Congratulations to Professors Lyles and Salk!

Future developments

As AIB members are aware, the AIB Executive Board decided to renew the contract with Palgrave Macmillan as the publisher of *JIBS*. The new agreement is a strong signal that JIBS has been

transformed and revitalized as the pre-eminent IB academic journal. The financial terms create the resources to establish within the AIB secretariat the new office of *JIBS* Managing Editor, and in the future to relieve schools, where the Editor-in-Chief is located, to commit themselves to cover the cost of this office. In addition, it creates continuity in the everyday processing of manuscripts from editor to editor. The agreement also provides that the publisher will underwrite the costs of migrating to a new online manuscript processing system, Scholar One, which is used by many other top journals and which promises to

greatly improve the efficiency of processing manuscripts. The customization of Scholar One and the transition from the current system is being overseen by Dr Tunga Kiyak, the AIB Managing Director, with the assistance of Ms Danielle Trojan, the current Managing Editor of *JIBS*. The agreement also specifies the publisher's role in the new *JIBS* e-marketing strategy that it designed to increase awareness of research published in *JIBS* for scholars in adjacent disciplines with IB interests. Experiments with this strategy were begun this past year and I intend to report separately on initial results at a later time.