

## **Editor's Corner**

**Jacquelyn W. McClelland, Ph.D.**

### **Introduction**

This volume, the Winter/Spring 2003/2004 issue, reflects endings and new beginnings for *The Forum for Family and Consumer Issues (FFCI)*. As a new beginning it is the first issue for which I serve as the Editor-In-Chief. I accepted this position in July, 2003. I deeply appreciate and respect the honor of becoming Editor-In-Chief and the opportunities and challenges the position brings. I have served as a Board Member since the inception of *FFCI* and as an Executive Board Member from August 2002 until the present. My background also includes being an ad hoc reviewer for the *Journal of Nutrition and Behavior* since the early 1990s and a guest editor for a special issue on nutrition education and older adults in 2002. I also have served as a reviewer for *Family Economics & Nutrition Review* and am on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Nutrition for the Elderly*. My research and educational background is in nutritional biochemistry and in my position as Professor and Specialist at North Carolina State University I focus on adult and older adult nutrition education with special emphasis on diet-related chronic disease issues.

Over the years I have seen *FFCI* grow from an idea to reality and from few submissions to a plethora of manuscripts... so many and of such variety that to ensure proper appraisal of each article, it is now often necessary to employ special expertise outside the Editorial Board membership. This growth in submissions has been paralleled in growth in readership.

### **Acknowledgment of Members of *The Forum* Staff**

It is with great appreciation that I acknowledge the invaluable assistance of those who have made *FFCI* such a success. First and foremost, I thank Carol Schwab, the Founding Editor, for her vision, dedication and hard work. Carol, our hats are off to you as you change directions in your career. We wish you the best and look forward to continuing our association with you in your new role as a Consulting Editor.

The many others who have ensured the success of *FFCI* include Jill H. Steffey, the Editorial Associate. Jill has faithfully and continually served as the Copy Editor for each journal issue. We much appreciate your efforts, Jill, and could not have the quality that we have without your expertise.

Next, I think of the Executive Board, a group of hard-working, enthusiastic, and very dedicated individuals who have volunteered their time to be a sounding board and to help guide the decisions of the Editor. Executive Board meetings are held monthly and are always energetic, exciting and rewarding. Currently, this group includes Drs. Sarah Ash, Luci Bearon, and Angela Fraser. Thank you for all your efforts!

Another important group, the Associate Editors, includes Drs. Robert Flashman, Patricia A. Kendall, Anna Mae Kobbe, and April C. Mason. Thank you for all your efforts toward making the journal the quality and success it is today.

Of course one of the most important groups is the Editorial Board whose invaluable assistance has made the handling of the large number of manuscripts received for consideration each year possible. The Editorial Board includes 35 members whose names are listed on the cover page of the journal. Their interests and backgrounds span all areas of Family and Consumer Sciences. Without their time and expertise to ensure proper appraisal of each article there would be no journal. Thank you for giving of your time and talents!

Others who have served in special roles are also appreciated and to be thanked for much effort and thought. They include Dr. Sandra A. Zaslowsky, the Head of the NC State University Department of 4-H Youth Development and Family & Consumer Sciences, for supporting *The Forum* and serving as a Consulting Editor; Dr. Luci Bearon for serving as Associate Editor for Reviews; and Dr. Sarah Kirby for serving as Associate Editor for Recent Developments.

### **Endings and Beginnings**

As we look forward to 2004 and what this year brings, I want to mention a few changes in the works for *FFCI*.

- One change has already been mentioned, a new Editor has been appointed. Inevitably some changes will occur due to a difference in style of management and background. However, the vision for *The Forum* to be the premier journal dedicated to serving families, consumers and the profession, will remain the same and we will continue to follow the [Tempe Principles](#).

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- Editorials will be included only when needed to share changes occurring in the journal or timely issues.
  - The Recent Developments column has been discontinued due to lack of submissions.
  - Our web developer, Jason Robinson, will now be preparing and placing the journal issue on the web. I very much appreciate his skills in this area and look forward to working with him in this capacity. Thank you, Jason.
  - Plans are in the works to add a section to the journal for job postings in the area of Family and Consumer Sciences. We will pilot this section during the 2004 year and evaluate it at the end of 2004.
  - Plans are also in the works to add a section to the journal for professional events to be listed for society meetings, etc. This pilot will be evaluated at the end of 2004.
  - I am also looking into sponsorship for the journal to defray some of the management costs of *FFCI*.
  - The journal will no longer list Past Editorial Board Members' names, however we do appreciate their former service to this journal.
  - The journal will now be issued three times a year instead of four. Due dates for submissions effective immediately are January 1, May 1 and September 1 to accommodate a Spring, a Summer, and a Fall/Winter issue, respectively.

As G.B. Stern once noted, "Silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone" and so I end this editorial again thanking all of you who have made it the success it is today and looking forward to your continued support to make *FFCI* even better in the future.