

Twenty Years and Counting

In July 1987, Alan J. Gelenberg, M.D., assumed the editorship of *The Journal of Clinical Psychiatry* and began an association with our company that has been a resounding success. As Publisher, I have been privileged to collaborate with Alan to create a substantive body of literature that has helped you, our readers, better diagnose and treat your patients.

During these past 20 years of Alan's guidance, the *Journal* has grown and prospered. Each issue contains peer-reviewed articles submitted by the world's top researchers that provide the most important clinically relevant and methodologically sound research on the treatment of CNS disorders. Due to the high quality of these articles, today we are the best read* and one of the most often cited† psychiatry journals in the world as evidenced by our impact factor.

Reaching this stature has not only taken an enormous commitment of time and effort, but also required the knowledge and talents of a skilled researcher, teacher, and leader like Alan.

Alan has devoted his career to academic research and teaching. He received his M.D. from the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and his psychiatry training at Massachusetts General Hospital. He held academic appointments at Harvard Medical School and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology before becoming Professor and Head of the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Arizona in 1989. He is currently the Chair of the Workgroup on Major Depressive Disorder for the American Psychiatric Association's planned revision of the DSM. He has authored more than 200 original research reports, editorials, and book chapters and is a nationally recognized expert in psychopharmacology and mood disorders who has taught countless students how to be skilled clinicians.

Soon after he assumed the editorship of the *Journal*, Alan recruited a group of leading clinicians and researchers to our Editorial board and called upon his colleagues who generously agreed to peer review the growing number of submissions. A testament to his leadership is the fact that many of these thought leaders are still serving as reviewers and are submitting their premier research to the *Journal*.

The responsibilities of Editor in Chief have increased dramatically over the past 2 decades, and Alan wisely appointed Deputy Editors to assist in the review and processing of our burgeoning number of submissions. This system has worked successfully because Alan has mentored these deputies, teaching them the necessary skills to evaluate the quality of a manuscript and the reviews. As a result of his efforts, the *Journal* receives many more submissions than can be accepted; our current acceptance rate is 31%.

Alan and I quickly established an excellent working relationship, which has remained constant during these past 20 years, and I quite honestly can't think of another person I would rather see in his job. Ours has been a true collaboration built on mutual respect and the sharing of a vision to publish the highest quality information in a timely fashion.

It's difficult to realize these 20 years have passed as quickly as they have, for to me Alan's enthusiasm, dedication, and interest are as great as they were when we first met in Boston to talk about the *Journal*. I congratulate Alan on a job splendidly done and look forward to our continued collaboration for many years to come.



John S. Shelton, Ph.D.
Publisher

*Source: Focus Readership Study, December 2006. PERQ/HCI Research, Princeton, NJ

†Source: Journal Citation Reports, July 2006. Thomson Scientific, www.thomson.com/solutions/scientific