

expectations, seek advice and guidance from your colleagues, and call your old advisors and thank them....profusely. Oh, and be sure to apologize for any faux pas that you have now realized you committed as a graduate student.

Special thanks to my mentors Dr. Fran Dickson and Dr. Patrick Hughes for their insight for this article and their encouragement throughout my academic career. Also thanks to Dr. Dawn Braithwaite for her wisdom and willingness to share detailed comments about the graduate mentoring process.

JOURNALS UPDATE

Editor's Report on the *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*

by Paul A. Mongeau,
Arizona State University, USA

2007 was another banner year for JSPPR (don't I say that every year?). We received just short of 300 total manuscripts during the year. This is, by far, a record number of submissions and represents a nearly one-third increase over last year (which, unless I'm mistaken, was the previous record). Submissions so far in 2008 are keeping pace. Just over one-quarter of the 2007 submissions came from outside North America (consistent with trends from previous years). We received proportionally more manuscripts from Asia than we had in previous years. Our acceptance rate is probably right around 15% or just a bit higher.

The editorial team continues to evolve. Laura Stafford has stepped down as an Associate Editor (i.e., AE) to take over as editor of the *Journal of Applied Communication Research*. I

appreciate all the assistance that Laura provided during her tenure as an AE. To help deal with the increasing number of manuscripts, we have added several new AEs. Specifically, John Caughlin (University of Illinois, USA), Kelly Bost (also from the University of Illinois, USA), Sandra Metts (Illinois State University, USA), and Tammy Afifi (University of California-Santa Barbara, USA) have all come on board in the past six months or so. There will likely be some change in the AEs later in the year (fall in the Northern Hemisphere) that I will discuss in my next report.

We are preparing several ways of marking the journal's silver anniversary (which, technically, is volume 26 coming in 2009). Steve Duck kicked this occasion with an informative and entertaining personal history of the journal in the February 2008 issue. I strongly recommend it. In Volume 26, we will mark the occasion by discussing several of the most influential theories and constructs that have stood the test of a quarter-century and look forward to the future.

Report from the Masthead Editor of *Personal Relationships*

by Rebecca G. Adams,
University of North Carolina
at Greensboro, USA

As you know, Lorne Campbell will be succeeding me as Editor of *Personal Relationships*. I am delighted he has agreed to serve IARR in this important way. We have already begun to plan the transition, and I look forward to working with him over the next couple of years during our overlapping terms.

I want to take this opportunity to describe how the transition from my editorship of *PR* to Lorne Campbell's editorship will be handled and how it will affect my team's authors, members of the Editorial Board, ad hoc reviewers, and new scholar reviewers. Lorne and his team will

begin receiving submissions on June 1, 2008, but my team and I will continue to handle the manuscripts that were originally submitted to us until final decisions have been made. We will fill issues and serve as the masthead editorial team through the end of 2009.

We will continue to rely on the members of our editorial board, our ad hoc reviewers, and our new scholar reviewers to review revised and resubmitted papers that they have reviewed previously and, in some cases where an additional evaluation is needed, invite them to complete an occasional review of a revised and resubmitted manuscript they have not previously reviewed. The number of requests my team sends to reviewers will therefore decrease gradually after June 1, but Lorne's team will begin sending out requests at that time and Paul Mongeau, Editor of JSPR, and his team will continue to draw reviewers from an overlapping pool as well. Note that Lorne has arranged to move to web-based submissions, but my team will continue to handle our submissions by email. The submission guidelines inside the back of the journal will be updated in the June issue to reflect this change.

I want to call your attention to two sessions included on the July IARR program. One is a roundtable organized by IARR President Phil Shaver on International Cooperation in Relationship Research. The second is a roundtable on Writing and Reviewing for an Interdisciplinary journal organized by my editorial team. These two sessions will both address issues crucial to the development of our field and the future of *PR*.

At my request, beginning in 2008, Wiley-Blackwell increased the number of press releases they prepare for articles published in *PR* from two to three per year. Articles with well-developed discussions of the practical implications of findings are most likely to be selected. In 2007, they did press releases on Amy K. Kiefer and Diana T. Sanchez's article on Scripting Sexual Passivity: A Gender Role Perspective (*PR*, Vol. 14, Number 2, pp. 269-290) and Gary Lewandowski, Jr., Arthur Aron, and Julie Gee's piece on Personality Goes a

Long Way: The Malleability of Opposite Sex Physical Attractiveness (*PR*, Vol. 14, Number 4, pp. 571-586). Thus far in 2008, they have prepared a release for Jaye L. Derrick and Shira Gabriel's upcoming article on Parasocial Relationships and Self-Discrepancies: Faux Relationships Have Benefits for Low Self-Esteem Individuals (*PR*, Vol. 15, Number 2).

Acceptance rates change as manuscripts submitted during a given period are accepted or rejected, so we will not know the acceptance rate for my editorial team's term until we are entirely finished. The acceptance rate will be between 18 and 22% for the first year of our term (June 1, 2005-May 31, 2006) and between 9 and 23% for the second year of our term. It is too early to predict the range of the possible acceptance rate for the submissions we received between June 1, 2007, and May 31, 2008. We received fewer submissions the second year (137) than the first year (176), but have already received 149 submissions in 2007-2008 and still have a month to go. It takes us about 4 months on the average from the time of submission to reach an initial decision. It takes the authors who receive invitations to revise and resubmit about 4 months on the average to do so. Note that it is important that authors who have received invitations to revise and resubmit do so in a timely way, because this team's last issue will be submitted to Blackwell in August of 2009. There is a wide variation in the time from submission to acceptance, but on average it takes between 13 and 16 months from submission to acceptance and between 4 and 5 months more until publication. It is possible that Lorne's statistics will be substantially different, but the acceptance rates during my editorship are similar to what Sue Sprecher reported to me when I replaced her as Editor for new submissions.

I have enjoyed working this year with President Phil Shaver, the IARR Board, Treasurer Michael Cunningham, Publications Chair Dan Perlman, the Editorial Board, the reviewers, and the authors. I would also like to give special thanks to my patient and diligent Associate Editors and to Sarah Hosman, who has served as *PR*'s Editorial Assistant since August. She is doing a terrific job. Brandi McCullough, *PR*'s previous

editorial assistant just defended her master's thesis, so join me in congratulating her. I know from talking to other editors how very fortunate I am to have such a responsible, committed, and skilled team and such a supportive intellectual community to serve.

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IARRC 2008 UPDATE

**International Association for
Relationship Research
Conference
Providence, Rhode Island,
17-20 July 2008**

**Get ready for a fabulous
conference!**

by Wendy Samter and Lisa Diamond

*T*he biennial meeting of IARR will be held July 17-20 in beautiful Providence, Rhode Island. We had a record number of submissions this year and the program is brimming with cutting-edge relationship research from scholars around the globe. The program also features invited addresses from a diverse group of leading researchers: **Sandra Petronio, Beverly Fehr, Stephen Marks, Ruthellen Josselson, Andrew Collins, Denise Solomon, and Rand Conger.** The schedule also includes opportunities for graduate students to socialize with one another, a chance to meet and greet with JSPR and PR editors, special sessions