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## Editorial

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### **Emotional trajectories in development: Considering the child's feelings and perspective**

Members of the college, I am proud to announce that this issue signals a new era for our college bulletin. Our college publication has a new status as an official journal of the Australian Psychological Society and a new format devised by the Tasmanian-based publisher, Australian Clearinghouse for Youth Studies. As requested by the Director of Communications, the colour is the one assigned to our College as depicted on our membership certificates. The design utilises the psychology motif with the strong upward loop on the front cover typifying developmental progression.

I have been editor for seven years (1992-7), following a guest editorial issue (1990, Volume 8, Number 1). During that time, this publication has aspired to high editorial standards and professional relevance. As editor during this inaugural year as an official journal, I take pride in past accomplishments and hope to continue improving the value of the journal to members: All in all, an emotional trajectory!

Carey Denholm, the current CEDP chairperson and new associate editor, is to be congratulated for his successful argument to the Society. The APS Board of Directors, especially the executive director, Dr Alison Garton, director of professional affairs Arthur Crook, and director of communications, Dr Peter Cotton, have our appreciation. The support of former chair of the publications (periodicals) committee, Associate Professor Graeme Davidson, in allowing the AEDP to join in the editorial meetings of the major journals of the Society, *Australian Psychologist*, *Australian Journal of Psychology*, and the *InPsych*, the APS bulletin, must also be acknowledged.

The journal has a seven-member editorial board that has a two-year 1998-9 term. Six are members of CEDP, the seventh being a frequent reviewer and organiser of crosscontinental referees (Steve Houghton). Three have direct experience of the college national committee and the history and current agenda of the college, Jan Fletcher and Alan Hudson being on the current executive and David Leach being on the committee when it was located in Western Australia.

These members has considerable editorial expertise to the board. David Leach is a former editor of AEDP. Alan Hudson has edited *Behaviour Change*, the journal of the Australian Association for Cognitive and Behaviour Therapy. Others are on editorial boards of other national and international journals.

Board members also encompass eminent Australian researchers and well-regarded practitioners. The fields of interest represented in the board are

behaviour genetics (David Hay), behaviourism and special education (Alan Hudson, David Leach), language (Jan Fletcher), adolescence (Steve Houghton), constructivism and cognitive development (Graeme Halford), and experimental studies in forensic sciences, including children (Don Thomson). The board is skewed to Western Australia, with one Queenslander, one Victorian, and one (currently) based in NSW.

This first issue in the new era is a miscellaneous collection of empirical reports. The manuscripts have coalesced, however, around a theme of studying the perspective of the child and adolescent on their development and behaviour. These separate investigations of the self-reported anxiety and its effect on academic productivity, subjective feelings about an ADHD disorder, cognition and emotional reactions to being bullied, coping strategies of daughters compared to their mothers, and self-concept in an Australian context shed light on various aspects of the affective life experience of the developing person.

In a gesture of symbolism, a case study related to a program of master's research is the first article. One of the goals transferred to me by former AEDP editor, David Leach, when he handed over the editorial "pen" – the keyboard being the technologically current equivalent – was to provide a venue for interchange between professional development of practitioners and an outlet for graduate research in educational and developmental psychology of interest to practitioners: of reciprocal and unifying benefit to the profession as a whole across its many and diverse elements. Graduate research in the professional masters' degrees, as well as established academic research of practitioner interest and professional analysis and evaluation of practice, are of interest to this journal, because it informs the professional membership of emerging trends in training and because it directs training programs towards best practice for the needs of the Australian community.

The second issue of 1998 will contain reports on several major Australian longitudinal research programs. It also contains an timely analysis of the role of Australian educational psychology and the training needs of educational psychologists: The college will host a discussion of the future of educational psychologists at the 1998 APS annual conference.

The 1999 volume will have two special issues: one on the flourishing research in Queensland treatment programmes for child and adolescent anxiety, and management of child health, and one on issues in language development, to be guest edited by Jan Fletcher and Felicity Cronan.

*Fiona Bryer*  
Editor

