Inaugural Editorial for *Psychological Assessment*

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I am honored to take on the role of Editor-in-Chief of *Psychological Assessment* and welcome this opportunity to discuss my vision for the journal. I feel a special affinity to *Psychological Assessment*, having published two of my early papers in its inaugural issue (1989) and having served on the editorial board for the journal since 1992, including two terms as Associate Editor (1998–2003, 2010–2015). I am particularly grateful to the journal’s outgoing editor, Cecil Reynolds, for his innovative and skillful stewardship of *Psychological Assessment* and his guidance and assistance as I’ve transitioned into the Editor’s position.

My overall vision is that *Psychological Assessment* should remain the leading outlet for clinically oriented psychological assessment research. Assessment psychology encompasses a wide range of topics and methodologies. Broadly speaking, assessment plays a vital role in four applied areas: clinical/consulting, counseling, educational, and industrial/organizational (I/O) psychology. Research related to counseling, educational, and I/O psychology is published in other American Psychological Association (APA) journals. *Psychological Assessment*’s focus is on the dissemination of assessment research relevant to clinical/consulting psychology. Within this domain, assessment plays an important role in several subareas: cognitive/neuropsychological, forensic, health, multicultural, personality, psychopathology, and screening of candidates for high-risk public safety positions. My goal is to publish cutting-edge research on all of these topics.

With this goal in mind, I’ve been fortunate to enlist the services of 12 knowledgeable, internationally recognized experts in assessment psychology research to serve as Associate Editors of the journal. Michael Bagby, of the University of Toronto, brings years of expertise in assessment of adult personality and psychopathology. Zeeshan Butt, from Northwestern University, will focus on enhancing the representation of assessment research related to health psychology. Barbara De Clercq, of Universiteit Gent, will handle manuscripts dealing with the assessment of personality in general and personality disorders in particular. Emily Durbin, of Michigan State University, will be the journal’s point person in handling research related to assessment of child psychopathology. John Edens, of Texas A&M University, will primarily handle submissions related to forensic psychological assessment. Mauricio Garcia-Barrera, of the University of Victoria, will generally handle submissions related to child neuropsychological and multicultural assessment. Craig Frisby, from the University of Missouri, will handle child cognitive and multicultural assessment submissions. Kyunghhee Han, of Central Michigan University, brings expertise in multicultural assessment and international adaptation of psychological tests. Augustine Osman, of the University of Texas at San Antonio, will be responsible for submissions related to the assessment of mood and anxiety disorders and assessment of minorities. Martin Sellbom, of the University of Otago, will handle submissions in the areas of adult personality and psychopathology and forensic assessment. Julie Suhr, of Ohio University, brings expertise in adult neuropsychological assessment. And finally, Kevin Wu, from Northern Illinois University, will handle manuscripts in the area of adult psychopathology assessment. This talented team and I have assembled a roughly 100-member board of Consulting Editors, who have committed to contributing their time and expertise to reviewing manuscripts submitted to *Psychological Assessment*, for which I am grateful. As reflected in the areas of expertise just listed, *Psychological Assessment*’s editorial scope is broad. We welcome submissions in these and any other topics that fit reasonably the domain of clinical assessment. For example, articles focusing on emerging assessment technologies and research methodologies are also welcome, as are ones reflecting the multicultural and multinational nature of assessment psychology research. A key consideration for any submission is whether the research and its application are linked, in the manuscript, to clinical assessment. Studies based on college student samples may meet this requirement, but it is incumbent upon the authors to make a clear connection to clinical psychological assessment.

*Psychological Assessment* has grown both in scope and in page numbers since the inaugural 1989 issue mentioned earlier. So much so that beginning with the current issue, the journal is transitioning from quarterly to monthly publication. This change will reduce considerably the time between acceptance and print publication. It will also allow for publication of special issues devoted to a specific topic. Already in the works are special issues on the assessment of mindfulness, health psychology assessment research, assessment of non-credible presentation in attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, and field reliability and validity of forensic psychological assessment instruments and procedures. I welcome proposals for other special issues on topics that fall within our editorial scope.

As of this writing, our editorial team has been processing submissions to *Psychological Assessment* for 9 months. However, owing to the healthy backlog of manuscripts accepted by Cecil Reynolds’ team, our first papers are scheduled to appear in the July 2016 issue. To assist in relieving the backlog, the number of pages published in the 2015 issues had been increased by 150 pages, and the journal’s frequency will increase in 2016. At the three-quarter-year mark, our incoming team has already handled over 500 new submissions and dozens of resubmissions. We are committed to providing authors timely, constructive feedback, even when the decision is not what they had hoped to hear.

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Managing the editorial workflow of this number of submissions would not be possible without the tireless efforts and strong organizational skills of our manuscript coordinator, Angela Clinton. I encourage authors and potential authors to communicate with Angela about any editorial review process questions and with me concerning editorial questions and decisions.

In closing, I’d like to express my thanks and appreciation to APA’s Publications and Communications Board for entrusting me with the honor of serving as Editor of *Psychological Assessment* and to Kent State’s Psychological Sciences department for providing me time and support to serve in this position.