EDITORIAL

An Update on *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology*: Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Something Green?

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When I first learned that I had been selected as the next editor of *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology*, I was humbled and honored by the opportunity. Looking at the names of past editors, Drs. Charles R. Schuster, Warren K. Bickel, Nancy K. Mello, and Suzette M. Evans, I see a list of luminaries in the field of psychopharmacology and substance abuse research. During my term, I hope to continue the strong tradition of publishing rigorous and influential research fostered by past editors. I especially want to thank the outgoing editor, Dr. Suzette M. Evans, for her guidance and support throughout my career, particularly during this time of transition for *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology*.

I am joined at the journal helm by an outstanding board of consulting editors. In selecting this group, my intention was to pull together top scientists in the field who represent diverse viewpoints, backgrounds, career stages and scientific expertise. I think I succeeded with that goal and am thankful for their service and input thus far.

I gave the editorial this title because it succinctly captures the remainder of the information I want to convey. So first, something old. *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology* will continue to accept original research reports and full reviews as it has in past years. I hope to still receive outstanding manuscripts in our primary areas of strength, such as clinical research on alcohol use and cigarette smoking. The journal will also continue to publish an annual special issue on a current topic in the field. Please contact me if you have an idea for an issue that would be a good fit with the journal’s scope.

Now, on to something new. *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology* now accepts brief communications, brief reviews, and case reports. I see these new formats as opportunities to publish cutting edge, novel findings that may not be suitable as original research reports or full reviews—such work would previously not have fit with the journal. Moreover, these formats provide the opportunity for early career investigators to publish their initial work. I am also hoping to increase the representation of high quality psychopharmacology content, broadly defined. I especially encourage submission of preclinical and clinical research reports on the effects of centrally acting drugs such as antidepressants, antipsychotics, and anxiolytics, which are outside of what the journal typically receives. I would also very much like to see increased representation of research on the intersection of HIV and psychopharmacology/substance abuse in the journal.

I borrowed an idea from my colleagues who serve as editors for other journals in the field: the addition of an editorial fellowship at *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology*. This editorial will be in press before our first fellow is selected, but I am very excited by the opportunity to mentor a junior colleague to help her/him develop editorial and publishing proficiency, enrich scientific knowledge and bolster written communication skills. Each fellow will serve for 1 year, after which s/he will join the board of consulting editors, and will manage about one manuscript/month during her/his year of service with my guidance. I have uniformly heard that programs like these are very valuable experiences, both for the fellow and the editor, so I am hopeful that this borrowed idea will bring the same value to this journal.

The “something green” part of the title may be a mystery to those of you accessing this content electronically, but for those with a print copy of the journal, you will surely have noticed our new, bright green cover color. I picked this color so that the journal will stand out on bookshelves, as well as to symbolize the growth, energy and new directions I see for *Experimental and Clinical Psychopharmacology*.

I am grateful for the chance to serve as the journal’s editor for the coming years, and am very excited about where we are going—thank you for joining us for the ride and for helping to make the journal a success.