

EDITORIAL

I am delighted to take over as editor of the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General* and to do so with a brilliant team of associate editors: Tim Curran, Michael Inzlicht, Alejandro Lleras, Bob Rehder, and Sharon Thompson-Schill were on board from Day 1 and, because of a very impressive growth in submissions, were later joined by Nicholas Cepeda, Klaus Fiedler, Zenzi Griffin, Ran Hassin, Iris Mauss, and Amy Shelton. We have rounded up a highly qualified editorial board and hired a dedicated and efficient editorial associate: Jenn Richler. Given the scope and mission of the journal, it would be impossible for us to represent all disciplines relevant to the journal, but I am lucky to be flanked by people with broad interests and good judgment. I cannot imagine more important qualities for this job.

My luck does not end there: The journal is in excellent position, thanks to the relentless work and vision of Fernanda Ferreira and her team and those who preceded them. To follow in their footsteps is inspiring and humbling.

The mission of the journal will not change: We seek to publish the best empirical work that bridges the interests of two or more communities in psychology. A great journal is recognized not only as one where authors choose to send their most exciting findings, but also as one handed to students to illustrate the sorts of important questions psychologists should be asking. In a time when interdisciplinary research is ubiquitous, it can be difficult to define what truly bridges disciplines. For *JEP: General*, there are many ways in which a study can fulfill this criterion. Some work will represent a new question that could be asked only by a team of psychologists from distinct areas. Other studies may take a well-established question in one area and make it particularly relevant to specialists in other areas. Some work bridges different literatures to transform a question and its importance to the field. In the end, psychologists value interdisciplinary research because it challenges assumptions about which questions are most important, which methods are most appropriate, and what evidence should constrain the interpretation of any given experimental finding. These are also the reasons to value the best research of any kind. My hope is that the emphasis on building bridges will continue to guide us in selecting the most important research for publication in *JEP: General*.

I am particularly intent on making sure that experimental psychology of all flavors finds its due place in the journal. In recent years, cognitive research has taken center stage, while other very active areas in our field have been underrepresented. For instance, the journal includes a place for studies of social processes and development and for work that uses cognitive neuroscience methodologies. In addition, we will seek to attract work in specialized areas critical to the development of our science, for example, computational modeling and the adoption of Bayesian methods in data analysis. In such technical fields of study, reaching out with a clear message is not only a virtue but a necessity for the research to have a broad impact. If you are not sure if your work is appropriate for the journal, you should be encouraged by seeing individuals among our consulting editors who ask similar questions, and you should be discouraged only if you cannot imagine your work being of interest to the community we represent.

My team will introduce a new brief report format that I hope will encourage submissions in a broader range of disciplines. We find ourselves able to highlight the most innovative and significant mean and lean contributions without reducing our ability to publish articles that are longer than the usual article. In the end, a good article should be no longer than it needs to be. With a board that is larger and more diverse than before, we are ready to accept both kinds of submissions.

We will work *with* authors, because you are the movers behind the science. We will not waste your time, which can mean an article is rejected without external review if we believe at the outset that it bears little chance to be published. Our action letters will send clear and informative messages, treating you as we wish to be treated when we submit our best work to a journal. We are inviting authors to take a more active part in the review process, with our submission instructions requiring more information from you, because you know your work best. It will be my and my team's honor and privilege to help you make that work known by our distinguished readership. Please consider submitting your best work to *JEP: General*.

—Isabel Gauthier, Editor