As a graduate student in 1986, who at that time was just beginning to find an intellectual home in the emerging field of life span psychology, I remember the inaugural issue of *Psychology and Aging* as an exciting event. Under the leadership of Powell Lawton and Donald Kausler this new journal promised to give our diverse field a consistent voice and focus. Twenty-seven years later, there can be little doubt that this promise has been kept. During its inaugural year *Psychology and Aging* featured 44 articles. By 2011 this number has risen to 105 and currently the journal sees about 400 submissions per year, which are handled by four full-time and three half-time editors. *Psychology and Aging* has not only grown in volume. With an impact factor of around 3.0, it plays in the same league as many of the traditional flagship journals, such as *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*, or *Developmental Psychology*. Moreover, the average editorial decision time has dropped to a little over 1 month for first submissions in 2011. In other words, *Psychology and Aging* is the prime outlet for high-impact and efficient publishing in the area of life span development and aging.

The credit for these achievements goes to the previous editors, most recently Fredda Blanchard-Fields—and since her very sad and untimely passing—interim editor Paul Duberstein. It is my charge to maintain and, ideally, further increase *Psychology and Aging*’s good standing. In this context, I see little need for major changes. At best, we will experiment with some minor shifts in emphasis—all in the service of overall stability and growth. I list just a few of these here.

**Replication.** A strong emphasis on reproducible results is one hallmark of a mature field of scientific inquiry. Within the field of psychology as a whole, the question of how best to assure the robustness of reported results has recently received renewed attention. For example, such assurance is often difficult to achieve within brief, single-experiment articles. For *Psychology and Aging*, a further emphasis on reproducible results may imply that we increasingly ask authors to add replication evidence, even within manuscripts submitted in the Brief Report category. For larger studies, where simple replications are less feasible, there are alternative ways to provide robustness checks, such as through cross-validation within smaller, randomly chosen, or even naturally occurring subgroups. We encourage authors to actively explore such options.

**Speeding up editorial decisions.** Occasional exceptions notwithstanding, *Psychology and Aging* authors can expect a relatively swift response to their submissions. One important strategy in this context has been to carefully increase the rate at which we make editorial decisions on manuscripts without sending them out to review. This may imply a reject decision when the probability that the manuscript would “survive” a full review process seems very low. In case of obvious but correctable shortcomings, it may also mean that we ask for an initial revision before sending the manuscript out to review. This ensures quick feedback for authors, but also that editors and reviewers have more time for a thorough vetting of the remaining manuscripts. My predecessors have begun to implement this strategy and we are in the process of further strengthening it.

**Focus on the entire life span.** As every life span psychologist knows, the aging process does not begin with 60. Yet, the typical manuscript submitted to this journal focuses on aging as a late-life phenomenon, and manuscripts with an explicit focus on the specific developmental challenges and processes during middle adulthood are relatively rare. Therefore, I encourage authors to submit manuscripts that emphasize developmental processes across any phase of the adult life span.

One aspect that has remained unchanged since the beginning of this field is that the study of psychology and aging requires integration of theories and results across all subdisciplines of psychology. In fact, as an informal inspection of impact statistics suggests, often those articles that sit at the intersection between subfields, such as cognition and emotion, garner the most attention. Obviously, the diversity of our field can pose challenges to a fair and informed editorial process. Therefore I am happy to be able to work with an editorial team in which each member has broad, cross-area experience in life span psychology and aging. Paul Duberstein will continue to cover research in both personality and clinical/applied areas. Alexandra Freund
will continue to handle manuscripts in social cognition and motivation/action regulation. Derek Isaacowitz's focus is on personality, social cognition, and emotion processing. Cindy Lustig covers attention, memory, and neuroimaging manuscripts, and Martin Sliwinski handles submissions on stress, coping, dementia, but also new methodological developments. Liz Stine-Morrow's area of expertise includes language, memory, and metacognition.

It is in the interest of the field as a whole to make Psychology and Aging as strong as possible. Our task and privilege is to try to provide a fair, open-minded, and efficient editorial process. However, we can only succeed if you continue to lend us your expertise as reviewers; and most importantly, send Psychology and Aging your best work.

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