

Editorial Statute of 'Gerontechnology' Journal

To guarantee the independence of the journal and regulate its relationship with the International Society for Gerontechnology an editorial statute has been drawn up and subsequently accepted by the editors. It will have a preliminary status until the General assembly in Nagoya (Japan) in May 2005 when it will be discussed with the members.

The text of the statute follows below:

1. *International Society for Gerontechnology (ISG)*

Goals of ISG include the furthering of research and applications of Gerontechnology and facilitation of communication on such issues, both internationally and nationally. In 2001 these goals have led to the establishment of the new quarterly journal 'Gerontechnology', at first together with a publishing house, as from September 2002 owned and issued by ISG. 'Gerontechnology' journal exists both in paper and in electronic format. Gerontechnology is interdisciplinary between the knowledge domains of technological innovation and of human aging (gerontology).

2. *Editors and Editorial Board*

Final responsibility for the content of Gerontechnology journal rests with the editors: the editor-in-chief and one or more associate editors.

The editors are assisted by an editorial board in attracting good manuscripts and other publishing material, and also in the process of peer-reviewing of manuscripts. The editorial board has a chair and some 20 members from different countries. Editors and the members of the editorial board are installed and discharged by the Board of ISG.

3. *Focus group*

The main focus group is composed of researchers, designers, students, policy

makers and advisers in the various fields of gerontechnology, who form the primary group of members and potential members of ISG. Membership of ISG includes a subscription on 'Gerontechnology' journal. Because members of the focus group can also be reached by libraries and institutes, ISG has an institutional membership and a library subscription as well.

The second focus group is found in organisations organized by the aged or concerned with them, the consumer sector and the care sector, and others involved or interested in gerontechnology and its applications in society.

In order to better reach the main focus groups, Gerontechnology journal will try to be abstracted in relevant abstracting services such as Science Citation Index and Medline.

4. *Content of 'Gerontechnology' journal*

The journal has, among others, the following sections: editorials, review papers, originals, short communications, correspondence, and various news items such as best practices, obituaries, book reviews, ISG business, and forthcoming events.

4.1. *Scientific contributions*

Except for editorials, manuscripts will be sent by the editors to one or more professionals for advice on suitability for publication in Gerontechnology journal and for recommendations of improvements. Advice and comments are subsequently sent to the authors together with the conclusion of the editors. Editors and members of the editorial board are not involved in the peer review process of manuscripts of which they are author or coauthor. Final decisions as to acceptance or refusal of a contribution rest by the editors.

4.2. *Commercials*

'Gerontechnology' journal may contain advertisements and other forms of

paid new items. The responsibility for accepting these rests with the Board of ISG, who can decide to delegate the decision to a board member, not being involved as editor or as a member of the editorial board. The pricing is decided upon by the treasurer of the ISG Board after consultation of the editors. Acquisition can be delegated or outsourced.

5. *ISG General assembly*

The General assembly of the ISG approves and amends the Statute of its journal.

Herman Bouma, President of ISG
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Who is who: the Editors

Annelies (J.E.M.H.) van Bronswijk, editor-in-chief



Annelies (1946) original
Annelies van Bronswijk at her mother's 90-years birthday party

inates from a family skilled in building, building services engineering, and textile trades. As an inquisitive child she decided to study biology since living and nature appeared of a higher order of complexity than technology. She obtained her PhD degree at the Catholic University of Nijmegen in 1972 on a thesis describing indoor environments as ecosystems to explain historically and geographically different exposures to mites and insects leading to allergic disease. To make scientific knowledge better applicable she earned professional certificates in room cleaning and indoor pest management. A number of

scholarships and fellowships brought her in contact with research groups in Canada (Manitoba) and the United States (Montana, Hawaii) skilled in stored food quality and parasitic mites, as well as in organising Bachelor and Master Educational Programs (East Lansing, Michigan). For about a quarter of a century she researched and taught mite-related disease at the Medical Department of Utrecht University, receiving the Dr.-Karl-Heyer-Award for these activities in 1993. In the meantime she had taken up a collaboration with Eindhoven University of Technology, bringing her back in the domain of the ancestral trades. The subject was Healthy Buildings, leading to a chair on 'Biotic Agents in the Built Environments', changed in 1999 in 'Public Health Engineering for the Built Environment'. Always attentive on cultural changes taking place, such as greying and increasing multiculturalism of European Societies, she became involved in Gerontechnology; starting the journal, together with Herman Bouma, in 2001. In the same year, this time in collaboration with Cees Doevendans, USO-Built was started, as a European Graduate Research School on User-Oriented Built Environments. Here she coordinates the section on 'Built-in Quality of Life'.

Annelies (J.E.M.H.) van Bronswijk

Herman Bouma, associate editor



Herman Bouma on a sailing trip in Friesland

Herman Bouma (1934) studied physics and chemistry at Utrecht University fol-

lowed by a few years of medicine. After the obligatory two years in the Netherlands Army (as meteorologist in the Air Force) he joined the Institute for Perception Research IPO, Eindhoven, where he took his PhD on a thesis dealing with the light reactions of the eye pupil. He went to Mc Gill University for a post-doc on physiological psychology (Don Hebb, Ron, Melzack, John O'Keefe), after which he continued at the Institute for Perception Research, Eindhoven, as a visual scientist, working on normal and dyslexic visual reading processes and on technical aids for compensating visual restrictions. In 1975 he became director of IPO until his first retirement in 1994. He continued as professor in Human Perception and Communication at the University of Technology Eindhoven working on Gerontechnology, a subject matter he had taken up in 1991 as chair of the Scientific Committee of the first international conference on Gerontechnology in Eindhoven. For that subject he paid a number of visits to Japan, where he co-chaired a number of workshops. In 1999 he again retired, now

continuing as associate editor of the new 'Gerontechnology' journal and since 2002 as president of the International Society for Gerontechnology ISG. He is a member of the Royal Netherlands Academy for Arts and Sciences and a honorary member of ISG. His wife, Elly Bouma-Tijmes, is a geriatric physician.

Herman Bouma

Gerontechnology 2002 Conference in Miami ran short

This successful conference still ran an economic deficit of \$24,200 USD. Approximately 170 registrants took part, resulting in about 60 registrants short of balancing the budget. Both the organizers and the ISG board are grateful to the Office of Sponsored Research at Florida State University that covered the deficit. Future conferences should be self-supporting.

Neil Charness, Co-organizer for Gerontechnology 2002
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