

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

At the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> volume we want to thank all peer reviewers of volume 2: Henk Becker, Sara Czaja, Jan Ekberg, Klaus Fellbaum, Johan Molenbroek, Heidrun Mollenkopf, Denise Park, Cor Pernot, Wendy Rogers, Ian Stuart-Hamilton, and the members of our editorial board.

In addition we would like to inform the members of the International Society for Gerontechnology and other readers of some of the changes that will take place starting this issue.

As you know both the society and the editors had a hard time during the production of volume 2. Our initial publisher stopped his collaboration suddenly leaving the society as publisher with little experience and no money. Although most of these problems have been solved by now, we also developed a serious backlog in issues. To correct that we decided to start volume 3 in January 2004, in stead of September 2003. From now on one volume will cover a calendar year and issues may be expected in January, April, July and October.

But that is not all. A new category of papers has been added, the Student Papers. These are meant to be short communications derived from Master or Doctor thesis research and written by the student. Manuscripts that are submitted in this category will receive extra guidance from editors and reviewing peers. Care will be taken to direct the student author with criticism meant to arrive at a scientifically valid publication. As long as

the submitted manuscript lays within the scope of the journal no blunt refusal of a paper will occur. The editors hope that this policy eases the first steps of our younger colleagues on the road towards a gerontechnological career in science or technology. The young scientist Roman Kaspar breaks the ice in this issue.

We were informed by the ISG board that the regional representatives of the ISG are in the process of reorganisation allowing for regional chapters of the society. We will mention these representatives in the colophon of each issue as a service to the readers, including their mail address for easy communication.

Some minor changes were made in the instructions to contributors. Please consult the new rules before sending us your manuscripts.

We are also happy to report that prof.dr. Don G. Bouwhuis accepted the associate-editorship. Wiet (Ludovicus G.H.) Koren, treasurer of the ISG, takes the responsibility for advertisements and other financial matters of the 3<sup>rd</sup> volume. We are grateful for his support.

We wish you an interesting and pleasant reading of the first issue of volume 3!

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