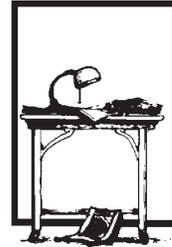

EDITORIAL



Long Live
the *Journal of Trauma & Dissociation*

From its very first issue this has been my favorite journal to read, and one I depend on for my education and my own research. Most other journals stack up on my desk and get shelved in my office, often with only a skimming of the abstracts, but the *Journal of Trauma & Dissociation* (JTD) gets read cover to cover shortly after it appears in my mailbox, issue after issue. Why? Of course, the topics of trauma and dissociation are fascinating and of deep importance to the human condition. But more, the papers in JTD are not formulaic; rather they are creative, insightful, and diverse. It was with great honor and excitement that I accepted the invitation to become the Editor of the *Journal of Trauma & Dissociation*.

The former and founding Editors of this journal, James Chu, MD and Elizabeth Bowman, MD, created and nurtured JTD from its inception in 1999. They brought to the task both superb vision and skilled implementation of that vision. From the beginning Chu and Bowman encour-

aged a diverse range of methodologies and approaches from empirical laboratory research to clinical case studies and theoretical analyses. This breadth and depth has ensured that JTD is exciting, innovative, and relevant. In addition, Bowman and Chu recruited a dynamic Editorial Board and Associate Editors who have brought wisdom, perspective, and energy to our journal. More recently, Managing Editor Jon Elhai, PhD, contributed his editorial skills to JTD. Elhai graciously remained as Managing Editor for a transition time (and helped with this issue); he has been critical to ensuring the continuity that will give us a strong journal in the future as well. JTD is also greatly enhanced by the support it receives from The International Society for the Study of Dissociation (ISSD) and of course, its dedicated, energetic, and loyal Associate Editors, Editorial Board, Editorial Assistant, and reviewers.

JTD as we know it today is built on the strengths of its forerunner, *Dissociation*. Its founders, Richard Kluft, MD, and Catherine Fine, PhD, established that excellent journal, published from 1988 to 1997, which continues to serve as an inspiration for JTD. Unfortunately, *Dissociation* has not been widely available to those who were not members of ISSD during its 10 years of publication. Unlike JTD, which has a full text digital version offered by the publisher The Haworth Press, *Dissociation* has not had a digital existence. This lack of digitization and accessibility creates a risk that many classic papers will fall into oblivion. This would be a terrible loss to our field and thus to JTD. An exciting project that JTD Editorial Board member Frank Putnam, MD, and I have initiated aims to address this problem by creating a complete digital library for the full set of articles published in *Dissociation*. We are working with former editor of *Dissociation* Richard Kluft, and the University of Oregon Library, to create this resource. We intend to make every paper ever published in *Dissociation* freely available to scholars, students, and clinicians world wide in electronic format via the University of Oregon website. Keep tuned to the JTD website I have created at <http://dynamic.uoregon.edu/jtd/> for updates and links regarding the Digitizing *Dissociation* Project.

As one indication of how successful our journal has become, and as further testament to the superb work of JTD's founding editors, reviewers, and contributors, we were informed in July 2005 that the *Journal of Trauma & Dissociation* has been accepted into the MEDLINE index by the National Library of Medicine (NLM). MEDLINE, the principal online bibliographic citation database of NLM's MEDLARS® system, is used internationally to provide access to the world's biomedical journal literature. Inclusion in this index greatly expands the exposure of re-

searchers, students, and clinicians to the material in the JTD. About 4,800 titles are indexed and included in the MEDLINE database. The Haworth Press, our publisher, and particularly Haworth's Richard Rockman, expertly ushered the MEDLINE application through the many required stages and they continue to aggressively pursue high visibility indexing and publicity for our journal. Selection for indexing by the NLM is very competitive and requires demonstration of substantial scientific quality. The NLM indicated that the JTD was indexed both because of its scientific excellence and because the field of dissociation has been under-represented in MEDLINE. This latter criterion, regarding NLM recognizing the under representation of the field of dissociation in MEDLINE, implicitly reflects an extremely important acknowledgment that dissociation is a field worthy of recognition. This is an important turning point for this field. Indexing in MEDLINE will begin with issue 6(1).

I was asked to accept responsibility for a journal already in fabulous condition. Thus, my first goal as Editor is to maintain and protect the journal. In addition to holding on to what we have already achieved, I am eager to see us go even further in increasing the scientific quality, clinical relevance, and general interest of our publication. I interpret the topic area of JTD to be trauma and/or dissociation. That is, we will consider articles that focus on dissociation even if they do not focus on trauma, and conversely articles that focus on trauma even if they do not focus on dissociation, although of course our mainstay will remain those articles that consider both trauma and dissociation. A vibrant journal requires vibrant contributions, and the most important way you can ensure that JTD continues to be a journal you want to read is by submitting your own work for publication.

I look forward to reading your submissions. I hope you find this issue of JTD as educational and enjoyable to read as I have.

Jennifer J. Freyd, PhD
Editor