

## Editor's Message: We're Growing!

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As I compile the components of this final issue of the 2007 *Journal of Geriatric Physical Therapy (JGPT)*, it is clear that this one will be an important resource for the members of Section on Geriatrics and for the broader community of health professionals working with aging adults in several ways.

First, we present the scholarly work of six groups of clinical researchers, all of whom are addressing important questions that impact on the care of aging adults. The scope and quality of their work provides valuable evidence that we, as clinicians, can use to guide clinical decision making as we examine, evaluate, and develop plans of cares for our patients.

Second, we prepare for the upcoming Combined Sections Meeting, February 6-9, 2008 in Nashville, TN by including the peer-reviewed abstracts for both platform (12) and poster (22) presentations to be given at the CSM. These represent the most current efforts of established and emerging clinical researchers, and provide an opportunity for us to become aware of very recently completed work. We applaud the members of the Section on Geriatrics Research Committee, under the leadership of Sandy Levi, PT, PhD, who provided the critical review to select these from among the numerous abstracts that were submitted for consideration. The quality of the preconference programming, and the many conference sessions sponsored by the Section and our professional colleagues makes CSM a very rich resource for learning, networking, and considering one's professional development. If you haven't yet been to CSM, consider this an invitation from the Section to attend!

The aspect of this issue that I am perhaps most excited (and a bit anxious) about is the presentation of the Journal's Strategic Plan, the outcome of a very effective retreat by many members of the editorial board in late May. As a new Editor-in-Chief, I rely on the energy of the Board, and am enlivened by the vision for the journal that we have crafted together. A strategic plan is, by definition, an evolving document. This is your opportunity, as a reader of the Journal, to review and provide thoughtful comment on the goals that we have come up with: What's most important from your perspective as a 'consumer' of clinical research evidence? What have we overlooked as we think about the Journal's future?

Finally, I'm asking for your help. The *JGPT* is growing in the scope, quality, and quantity of manuscripts submitted for peer review. One of the priorities identified during the editorial retreat is to increase the number of qualified manuscript reviewers ready and willing to provide constructive criticism to authors who submit their work. Please take a close look at the Call for Reviewers in this issue, and contact me (by email at [lusardim@sacredheart.edu](mailto:lusardim@sacredheart.edu)) if you have questions or are interested in joining the cadre of reviewers.

Enjoy what this issue has to offer!

