Beginning APAQ’s Second Decade

Volume 11 of APAQ is significant for at least two reasons. First, the present issue is a birthday of sorts, marking the beginning of APAQ’s second decade of publishing. Second, this issue is an inaugural one, inasmuch as APAQ has become the official journal of the International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity.

Ten years of publishing articles regarding people with disabilities is a significant milestone. We have separated the papers into three sections: Viewpoint, Application, and Research. Also, we provide our readers with a Digest of abstracts of relevant articles published elsewhere, as well as a Book Review section. Further description of these can be found at the beginning of each issue. Recently, however (Volume 9, Issue 3), we began a Review section for papers whose contents did not logically fall into the Viewpoint or Application section. In fact, during its first 10 years, APAQ has labeled 46 Viewpoint, 44 Application, and 160 Research papers.

The editorial policy of APAQ remains unchanged from that listed in Volume 1, Issue 1, 1984. While some new directions have been articulated (Reid, 1992), the stability of our editorial policy underscores the forward thinking of founding Editor Geoffrey Broadhead and founding Associate Editors Herbera Lundegren and Claudine Sherrill. Obviously, these scholars, as well as Human Kinetics President Rainer Martens, were capable of assessing the “journalistic” needs of a large segment of adapted physical activity professionals. Yet, change and renewal are necessary in an ever-evolving journal such as APAQ. Consequently, at our editorial board meeting to be held in Denver during the convention of the American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (early April 1994), I will challenge the board to evaluate our editorial policy and to begin a process of dialogue concerning whether changes are deemed necessary. Interested readers wishing to contribute ideas are encouraged to write to me.

A sincere welcome is extended to members of the International Federation of Adapted Physical Activity (IFAPA) who may be receiving APAQ for the first time. Certainly the strength of the journal is enhanced as it becomes the official journal of IFAPA, an organization that began in Quebec, Canada, in 1973 through the efforts of Université Laval professor Clermont Simard. IFAPA members will receive the journal, and the IFAPA newsletter will be included in APAQ. In addition, IFAPA is represented on the APAQ editorial board by individuals who also hold executive positions on the board of IFAPA. Karen DePauw (IFAPA president-elect), Gudrun Doll-Tepper (IFAPA president), and Jean Claude de Potter (IFAPA past president) were particularly influential in linking APAQ and IFAPA.

I look forward to working with the international audience of IFAPA, convinced that we all become more effective researchers, instructors, and administrators by fruitful collaboration with colleagues from other countries. It is interesting
to note that the contributors to this first issue of 1994 hail from Australia, Canada, Finland, Israel, The Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. We encourage appropriate submissions to APAQ from the international community. Please note the editorial policy of APAQ and the instructions to contributors included in APAQ.

The future is bright for the multidisciplinary journal APAQ. We must reaffirm our collective commitment to the notion of excellence suggested by Lundegren (1984), that excellence in a journal is the result of efforts by many individuals, most notably the researchers who conduct the investigations and seek to share their findings and interpretations with others. Many of these researchers continue to prepare new scholars in adapted physical activity research. We need to challenge these students to become involved in research and to develop, along with their mentors, a lifelong pursuit of new methods and technology for research. As an editorial board, we will review our policies regarding the journal, a timely venture as we reach out to readers from around the world who share in the vision of improving the quality of life for people with disabilities.

Greg Reid
Editor

References


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