

## From the Editor

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Welcome. Welcome to our new journal. Over the long course of preparing this first issue of the IJRLD I had imagined beginning this introduction by writing *welcome* in the languages of each of our members. But how many languages do our members have? what constitutes having a language? are there official languages and should they be privileged? what languages will members be learning, what languages will not be represented, and don't we want to "speak" with speakers of those languages as well? what of those who don't speak? and shouldn't we welcome in ways that go beyond merely speaking? If you imagine the complexity of the possible ways of welcoming, you will have a sense of the planned scope of our new journal. *Welcoming* across languages implies more than just communicating to be understood; the task is also to understand, anticipate, be open to and, sometimes, translate. That is the mission and task of the International Academy for Research in Learning Disabilities for the better understanding of learning disabilities, and it is the same for our new journal.

One may think our fields do not need another learning disabilities journal. But this journal is needed. We need to speak with one another across languages, cultures, regions and nations, and continents. We need to speak with each other across knowledge bases and perspectives, across scientific traditions, and across the many topics of relevance for advancing knowledge of learning disabilities. The IJRLD is a new platform for doing that. By writing in, reading, and discussing the IJRLD you will participate in an international sharing of what you know and what we all need to know. Of course, strictly speaking, the IJRLD is not a "new" journal. The IJRLD is a proud continuation of *Thalamus*. Our new name merely speaks of our reinvigoration and keeping up with the times. Through these pages we will continue the dialogue the Academy has led since its inception.

One of the complexities of language is that you could read *Welcome to our new journal* as either a welcome to you or to it. In the spirit of comprehensive communications, I mean it both ways. So, whatever your languages or traditions for welcoming, please translate "welcome to our new journal" in a way that means optimism and high expectations and please do welcome our renewed international dialogue by feeling welcome to join in.

### ***Thank You***

Our "new" journal is the product of the visions and efforts of many. My thanks to so many who have shared their input and talents. In particular, thanks to the members of the

Executive Committee for committing to revitalizing *Thalamus* and for their trust in me to lead the venture. Great thanks to fellow Publications Committee members, Judith Weiner and Carol Goldfus, who collaborated in numerous decisions. Thanks too to our fellow members who have volunteered their scholarship and goodwill as members of the Editorial Board; and of course thanks to those who have already submitted their scholarship to be considered for these pages.

-David Scanlon, Editor