

Editorial

The official journal of the APS College of Educational and Developmental Psychologists (CEDP), *The Australian Educational and Developmental Psychologist* aims to publish theoretical and empirical research in educational and developmental psychology, and to provide an outlet for discussion and debate of contemporary issues for practitioners.

This issue of the Journal reflects a diverse range of issues fundamental to educational and developmental psychological practice. In the first paper, Fletcher, Millar & Davies report the longer-term academic and social outcomes for children who participated in an earlier study of pre-primary grade repetition in Western Australia. The second paper, by Sambuco & Livesey, examines the effect of competitive sporting experience on children's sensitivity to kinaesthetic information. In the third paper, Shean, Pike, & Murphy review factors influencing children's acquisition of social competence, differentiating environmental factors through Bronfenbrenner's (1999) ecological systems model of the microsystem, mesosystem and exosystem.

This issue's fourth report is of an examination of the activities and role of Victorian school psychologists, and of the interests of their different client groups. In this paper, Tsartas & McKenzie investigated school staff's perceptions of the importance, effectiveness and desirability of various traditional and innovative activities. The fifth paper reports a study of the parenting attributes of Australian foster carers. Cuskelly and colleagues compared mothers involved in fostering with peers, and examined sense of efficacy, attachment, and marital satisfaction. In the final paper, Carroll, Keen, Davies, Skehan, & Fritz trialled the effectiveness of brief vignettes to assess the knowledge and understanding of residential care staff about choice diversity for people with intellectual disabilities.

This is my final editorial as interim editor of *The Australian Educational and Developmental Psychologist*, and I would like to thank the National Committee of the CEDP for its support, advice and encouragement. Thanks are also due to the Editorial Board, and to the reviewers for their timely and efficient work on manuscripts.

From 2006, the journal's development will be continued by its new editor, Dr Terry Bowles. I have every confidence that *The Australian Educational and Developmental Psychologist* will continue to be a valuable resource for practitioners and researchers in educational and developmental psychology.

Tim Hannan
Editor