



ELSEVIER

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Editorial

In this issue, Drs. Robert Gervey and Michael Shafer have co-edited an issue on vocational rehabilitation for persons with psychiatric impairments. This is the first topical area which has been repeated since the inception of the *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation* in 1991 and should serve to emphasize the importance of this topic.

Helping people with long-term persistent mental illness is a worldwide problem, one that has continually frustrated families and advocates as well as many different professionals. Communities are taking an increasing interest in how to help persons with psychiatric impairment adjust to life in local neighborhoods and the competitive workplace. To this end, Drs. Shafer and Gervey have wisely attracted papers which focus upon work as an important therapeutic medium in the rehabilitation process. Some of the most outstanding psychiatric vocational researchers in the U.S. are participating in this special issue with some encouraging techniques and supportive data.

On a different note altogether as we usher in 1995, the *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation* will, for the first time, be reviewing manuscripts that are not part of the issue's theme. We are encouraging readers to solicit papers in the vocational rehabilitation area for peer review across disability. Innovative data-based program descriptions and research, literature reviews, case studies, and policy analyses are welcome with a major emphasis on consumers with disabilities. As the founding Editor, I am interested in continuing to expand our knowledge and sensitivity in this area.

The *Journal* will also take on an increasingly global emphasis in the months and years ahead. More than ever, countries are closely interconnected given the speed which information can be communicated. We are very interested in sharing the best and brightest ideas worldwide in the *Journal of Vocational Rehabilitation*. The *Journal* strives to become *the* medium of international vocational rehabilitation exchange of information. Please do not hesitate to send your comments to me at VCU-RRTC, 1314 W. Main Street, Richmond, VA 23284-2011 or fax at 804-828-2181.

Thank you!

Paul Wehman