

From the Editor in Chief

By Judith A. Rosenbaum

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I write this in January just after we have passed the dubious occasion of the one-year anniversary of the first COVID-19 cases arriving in the United States. But it is a new year and around the corner, there is hope of the vaccine reaching many of us by the time you receive this issue of *Perspectives*.

This last year has been one of change, as many of us have had to adapt and innovate to find effective ways of teaching legal research and writing via a remote, or mostly remote, environment.

And just as we have experienced change in our teaching lives and are hopeful for good things to come in the new year, we at *Perspectives* have experienced change in the past year and are hopeful for good things to come in 2021.

We first welcome a new Editorial Board. In the last *Perspectives* issue, outgoing Editor in Chief James B. Levy mentioned that the Editorial Board had, for the first time, adopted Bylaws, instituted terms for Board members, and created an open application process for selecting new Editorial Board members. I would like to introduce that Board to you. Most members of the Board were appointed during the restructuring that occurred in the spring of 2019, but we also welcomed two new members this fall, following announcements on the listservs and the open application process that Jim mentioned in his column.

The entire Editorial Board consists of three Executive Editors, six additional Editorial Board members, and the Immediate Past Editor in Chief for continuity. The Executive Editors include the Editor in Chief, Assistant Editor in Chief and Managing Editor. The Editor in Chief and Assistant Editor in Chief were elected this past summer and the Managing Editor was elected in spring of 2019.

As the Author of this column, it should not be surprising that I'm the Editor in Chief, but I'm also listing our names here. The school affiliations and professional titles are in the masthead, so I am not repeating that information. The Executive Editors are: Editor in Chief, Judy Rosenbaum; Assistant Editor in Chief, Robin Boyle-Laisure; and Managing Editor, Brooke J. Bowman. The members of the Editorial Board, in alphabetical order, are Nicole Downing, Catherine M. Dunn, Jonathan Franklin, Jessica Hynes, Joe Regalia, and Michael Whiteman. In addition, our immediate past Editor in Chief, James B. Levy, is remaining on the Board to assist us with the transition.

Second, an Editor in Chief's column appearing as a regular feature is new. There have been columns from previous Editors in Chief, but those columns have appeared only occasionally, usually marking a transition in the Editor in Chief position. I hope this column will become a regular feature. I plan to use it to keep you, our readers, informed about issues before and decisions by the Editorial Board.

My final point is not about something new; instead, it relates to hope. A publication like this only exists when we receive articles for publication. And most, if not all, of those articles come from our audience of readers. I know that the past year has had its challenges, as revising teaching methods has been unbelievably time-consuming. But I hope as 2021 progresses that the need to spend copious amounts of time revising teaching methodologies will have eased. As it does, I hope many of you will have ideas for articles that we can publish and that you will think of *Perspectives* as you consider your publishing options.

Amidst some changes, there are also some constants. First *Perspectives* enjoys unique synergies with an audience of legal writing professors, transactional drafting professors, law

firms and individual practitioners interested in good legal writing, and law librarians in both the academic and corporate worlds. From the beginning, *Perspectives* has been one of, if not the most widely disseminated publications devoted to the teaching of both legal research and writing. In addition, from the beginning, *Perspectives* has received the unwavering support of Thomson Reuters, which for three decades has provided the funds to support first print and now online publication. I want to express, as others before me have done, our sincere gratitude for this support.

In the meantime, be well and stay healthy. I am looking forward to the (hopefully) not too distant future when we can return to in-person meetings where we can continue to share ideas about teaching legal research and writing.

Judy Rosenbaum
Perspectives Editor in Chief
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