

EDITORIAL

In 2005, the former Belgian Psychological Society (Belgische Vereniging voor Psychologie / Société Belge de Psychologie) changed its statutes to become an official non-profit organisation. The executive committee took this opportunity to change the name of the organisation and became the Belgian Association for Psychological Science (BAPS), thereby highlighting the importance of solid scientific underpinnings of psychological inquiry and practice. *Psychologica Belgica* continues to be the flagship journal of the BAPS and it is my privilege to be its new editor.

You probably noticed that Volume 46 appeared with a new cover layout. *Psychologica Belgica* is now printed and distributed by a professional publishing house, Academia Press. Dr. Geert Van den Bossche will act as academic content manager (gvdb@academiapress.be). Moreover, from now on the journal can be accessed electronically via the services of IngentaConnect. In addition, manuscript submissions and all correspondence during the review process are handled via e-mail. I hope this will contribute to a shorter publication lag.

I intend to continue to steer this journal along the beacons set by my most recent predecessors, André Vandierendonck and Axel Cleeremans, Axel now being president of the BAPS and André acting as past-president in the executive committee. First, a special thematic issue, handled by guest editors, will appear once a year. The special issues can be an excellent forum for presenting Belgian research in a particular domain of psychology to the broader scientific community. A good example is the 2006 special issue, edited by Pierre Philippot and Dirk Hermans, which contains contributions from different Belgian research groups active in the rapidly expanding field of experimental psychopathology. At the same time, the special issues provide a way to attract contributions from outstanding foreign researchers, as exemplified by the 2005 special issue on reasoning from inconsistency, edited by Kristien Dieussaert and Walter Schaeken. Second, in order to give a stimulant to young Belgian researchers, the winner of the Best Thesis Award, announced at the annual meeting of the BAPS, will be invited to provide an article on her or his thesis work. Third, regular articles remain very important. After all, *Psychologica Belgica* is your journal and its impact depends critically on the quality of the manuscripts you submit. Please consider *Psychologica Belgica* as a possible publication outlet for your work.

Obviously, the quality of the papers that eventually get published also depends on the feedback provided by the editors. I recruited the help of an, in my view, impressive group of associate editors:

Manuela Barreto (Leiden, The Netherlands)

Marc Brysbaert (London, U.K.)

Johnny Fontaine (Gent, Belgium)

Jean-Pierre Thibaut (Poitiers, France)

Mieke Verfaellie (Boston, U.S.A.)

Emmanuelle Zech (Louvain-La-Neuve, Belgium)

Except for Manuela Barreto, all associate editors have Belgian roots, but several of them are now affiliated to a foreign university. I am confident that, with this group on board, *Psychologica Belgica* can continue to be the BAPS flagship and at the same time will acquire a stronger international profile.

The feedback of the (associate) editor(s) is contingent on the willingness of reviewers to give up part of their precious time and provide informative reviews. I took care of the manuscript submissions since the beginning of 2005 and, together with my associate editors, I really appreciate the effort of the reviewers. *Psychologica Belgica* can only prosper as long as expert reviewers are willing to evaluate submitted manuscripts.

The editors, the publisher, the reviewers, and the writers all have a role to play in the life of a journal. But its main raison d'être is the reader. It is my sincere hope that this journal can help you, reader, to learn more about advances in diverse domains of psychology or cognate fields. Enjoy *Psychologica Belgica*!

Karl Verfaellie
Editor