

## EDITOR'S ANNUAL REPORT

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It has been another challenging and successful year for the editorial staff of *JMFT*. As announced in April, Dr. Ronald J. Chenail has been chosen as the next editor of *JMFT*. Dr. Chenail has put together an excellent editorial staff that will take full responsibility for the journal beginning January 1, 2005. He and his staff are already receiving all new submissions and assigning reviewers for these manuscripts. We are excited about his vision for *JMFT* and his enthusiasm for the editorial process. The current editorial staff continue to be responsible for processing "revise and resubmit" manuscripts and for producing the January, 2005 issue.

During our tenure we have been surrounded by talented and dedicated individuals who work behind the scenes to make the journal what it is. Our copyeditor, Christine Malcom, has been with the journal for the last two editors. Her dedication to detail has improved the quality of every manuscript published in the journal. Our issue designer, Carole Thieme, has an amazing ability to quickly and efficiently prepare the issue for print and works tirelessly to ensure high quality tables and figures. The staff of AAMFT are always accessible and continue to put articles published in *JMFT* for the past several years on-line in a searchable format. These articles may be accessed at AAMFT's website, [aamft.org](http://aamft.org).

With the change in editors, Dr. Steven Harris finishes his role as the Reviews Editor. This year Steve once again coordinated the efforts of many reviewers in order to provide a wide range of reviews on influential books in the field. Lori Mears assisted in this process and kept track of the materials received at the *JMFT* office. We appreciate all that Steve and Lori have done. We also appreciate all of those who have written book reviews this year including: Richard J. Bischoff, Monte Bobele, Charette A. Dersch, Brandt C. Gardner, Doug Greenlee, Branden H. Henline, Tom Milholland, Bobbi Miller, William F. Northey, Jason J. Platt, Vicky Primer, Tziporah E. Rosenberg, Jonathan G. Sandberg, Jeff Todahl, and David B. Ward.

### STATISTICAL INFORMATION ON JOURNAL CONTENT

This annual report for the journal covers the period from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004. Submissions to the journal continued to increase this year and totaled 143. Fourteen percent fewer manuscripts were initially rejected this year and a greater percentage of authors were invited to revise and resubmit their manuscripts. Decisions on new manuscripts submitted are presented in Table 1 and those for resubmitted manuscripts are in Table 2. Twenty-five manuscripts out of 132 submitted (not including invited articles and commentaries) were accepted, for an acceptance rate of 18.9%.

Subject categories for manuscripts received are listed in Table 3. About half of the manuscripts considered were research articles. Specific descriptors of the articles are listed in Table 4. Manuscripts using quantitative research, describing clinical interventions, and targeting couples were the three most common types of manuscripts received. More manuscripts on issues of diversity were received this year than in any year in the recent past. The descriptors reflect the broad range of material submitted to and published in *JMFT*.

### APPRECIATION

The following members of the Editorial Advisory Board rotated off the Board this year: Lascelles Black, Anne Hartman, Jaime Inclan, Janine Roberts, and Maureen Leahey. The wisdom and diligence of these Board members is deeply appreciated. Continuing and new members of the Editorial Advisory Board are listed on the masthead.

The quality of the review process is enhanced by the willingness of ad hoc reviewers to provide their

Table 1  
*Editorial Decisions on Manuscripts First Submitted Between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004*

	<i>n</i>	%
Total declined	40	38.5
Declined by editor (20)		
Declined after review (20)		
Revise and resubmit	36	34.6
Accept with minor revisions	2	8.6
Invited articles and commentaries	11	3.8
Still in review	15	14.4
<b>Totals</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 2  
*Disposition of "Revise and Resubmits" Received Between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004*

	<i>n</i>	%
Reject	5	12.8
Revise and resubmit	6	15.4
Accept	23	59.0
Still in review	5	12.8
<b>Totals</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 3  
*Categories for Manuscripts Received Between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004*

	<i>n</i>	%
Research	79	55.2
Theory	20	4.0
Clinical	31	21.6
Training	6	4.2
Other	7	5.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 4

*Descriptors for Manuscripts Received Between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004*

<b>RESEARCH</b>	<b>TRAINING AND SUPERVISION</b>
Process .....0	Training/Education .....18
Outcome .....7	Supervision .....3
Qualitative.....23	
Quantitative .....35	<b>PROFESSIONAL/PRACTICE ISSUES</b>
Mixed methods.....7	Delivery systems .....0
Review of literature .....13	Managed care .....4
	Practice development .....1
<b>THEORY/MODELS</b>	Practice settings .....2
Feminist .....1	Legal/Ethical issues .....0
Postmodern.....11	MFT as a profession .....8
Classical .....12	
Integrative .....9	<b>POPULATIONS</b>
Evidence-based.....0	Children/Adolescents .....10
	Couples .....38
<b>CLINICAL</b>	Diversity .....20
Assessment/Diagnosis .....10	Stepfamilies /Single parents.....0
Intervention/Technique .....46	Families.....19
	Special.....13

*Note.* Articles may be listed in several categories.

expertise. Without their help, the broad range of articles submitted to *JMFT* could not be adequately reviewed. We thank those who served in this essential role between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004: David Atkins, Suzanne Bartle-Haring, Roy Bean, Maria Bermudez, Kathleen Briggs, Stephanie Brooks, Yvonne Caldera, Mary Dankoski, Maureen Davey, Charette Dersch, Marshall Fine, Douglas Flemons, David Fournier, Jerry Gale, Brandt Gardner, Priscilla Gibson, Shelley Green, Suzanne Hanna, Terry Hargrave, Karen Helmeke, Jennifer Hodgson, Thomas Kimball, Angela Lamson, Jeffry Larson, Soh-Leong Lim, Janie Long, Kevin Lyness, David Mackinnon, Barry McCarthy, Teresa McDowell, Gene Mead, Margaret Morgan, Miriam Mulsow, Megan Murphy, Bill Northey, Rona Preli, Kary Reid, Jaako Seikkula, Elizabeth Skowron, Thomas Stone-Carlson, Gayatri Titus, Glade Topham, David Trimble, and Ron Werner-Wilson.

We recognize that the quality of the journal is a reflection of the dedication of those who review, evaluate, and suggest improvements to the authors of the manuscripts. We wish we could do more than simply list their names on the masthead. Their contributions are essential to *JMFT* and the broader discipline of marriage and family therapy. Their thorough and helpful reviews take a great deal of time with few or no direct benefits. We hope they recognize how important they are and feel satisfaction in knowing that their contributions do not go unnoticed.