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From the Editor's Desk

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Suzanne M. Hobson, Ed.D. Editor

As I prepare for my upcoming term as President of the Michigan Counseling Association, I have become increasingly aware of the many demands and challenges awaiting me in the new year. I am eager to begin this new adventure and am looking forward to discovering new ways to serve you in this role. However, in order to be effective as President, I will need to resign as editor of *Dimensions of Counseling*.

I have therefore invited Dr. Dibya Choudhuri to join me as the co-editor of this issue and am hopeful that she will accept full editorial responsibilities for the journal beginning in July, 2002. Dr. Choudhuri is a faculty member in the Department of Leadership and Counseling at Eastern Michigan University. She specializes in clinical supervision and in multicultural counseling issues and brings a wealth of clinical and research experience to her role as co-editor of *Dimensions of Counseling*.

By way of introduction, the lead article in this issue is offered by Dr. Choudhuri and myself. This article is geared specifically toward counselor educators and addresses one way in which professors might approach the design of introductory courses in multicultural counseling. The assignments described in this article are derived directly from Dr. Choudhuri's past teaching experiences and reflect her expertise with regard to pedagogy as well as to multicultural issues.

Whereas the first article focuses on professors (tending to be the most seasoned among us), the second article is focused specifically on new counselors and on supervisors who work with them. This article, written by Dr. Herbert Exum, addresses a phenomenon known as compassion fatigue. Dr. Exum describes the causes and indicators of compassion fatigue and offers proactive strategies for dealing with it.

The third article in this issue describes an extensive research study designed to better understand how skin tone among African American adolescents affects their self-esteem, ethnic identity, and cross-cultural coping strategies. In this article, Drs. Alfiee M. Breland, Hardin L. K. Coleman, Stephanie Irby Coard, and Robbie J. Steward will describe the design and methodology of the study, will discuss the results of the data analysis, and will offer implications for counselors and counselor educators.

The final article, written by Dr. Jean S. Peterson and Dr. John M. Littrell, describes how counselors can create partnerships in order to revitalize their school counseling programs. In doing so, these authors provide an ethnographic case study of how one specific school counselor developed these partnerships. The practical strategies offered in this article are certain to be of use to all school counselors!

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