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Editor's Column

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Editor's Column

I am pleased to present this issue of the Jefferson Journal of Psychiatry. For those who have not read the journal before, it is a peer reviewed journal by residents and primarily for residents in psychiatry. The primary authors of submissions are residents or fellows, and submissions are reviewed by a group of volunteer reviewers who are also residents or fellows in psychiatric training programs. The Journal receives a broad spectrum of submissions. This issue includes original research papers, case reports, as well as a book review. We welcome other formats as well, and I hope to encourage a greater volume of submissions in this column.

Editorial staff discussions about content for the journal have produced several suggestions for different types of articles. One example is to devote a section of the journal to essays on the topic of psychiatry and culture. For example we would like to encourage essays discussing thought provoking films that have relevance to psychiatry.

Another area I would like to request submissions in is essays on the topic of the experience of resident training. As a beginning example, this issue contains a book review of Of Two Minds by T.M. Luhrmann, an anthropologist who writes about psychiatric residency training. Residency training has many high points and low points, and I think that the journal could offer us as residents a place to discuss how the experience shapes us.

Many training programs encourage their residents to present grand rounds. Some members of the editorial staff have suggested that we encourage residents to submit written forms of their grand rounds presentations. Having seen some of my colleagues present grand rounds at Jefferson University earlier this year I know that these presentations are often very high quality and worth sharing beyond just one institution. I think the journal would be an excellent forum for such work.

Finally, from learning the process of editing the journal, recruiting reviewers and giving feedback to authors, I know that it is quite a daunting prospect to have one's manuscript published. I would like to encourage residents who may have had experience in writing or who want to learn about the process to submit papers which review topics about writing. I am particularly interested in submissions regarding the ethics of writing, or the difficulties encountered in conducting basic research.

I would like to thank the many authors and reviewers who made this issue possible and Andrew Klafter MD, who encouraged me to get involved in the journal.

Scot R. MacLean, MD Chief Editor