

## Editorial

The dual privilege of being President for the Society for Pediatric Research and Editor-in-Chief of the Journal provides the unique opportunity for innovation in the preparation of the program of the annual meeting as well as the responsibility for its publication.

In 1980, at the annual meetings in San Antonio, Texas, a symposium was held entitled "Frontiers of Pediatric Research and the Shaping of Public Policy." The objectives of the Symposium and of the Presidential Address were to invite reflection on the nature of the challenges currently facing pediatric research, how pediatric research policies are formulated, and new opportunities which may be provided in linkages with the community.

The Symposium participants were invited to express their personal views regarding specific issues in pediatric research and public policy. We also have the special privilege of including a related paper presented by Professor Donald Court at the 1980 meeting of the ESPR in Athens, Greece. This scholarly essay addresses the perspectives for pediatric research from our Euro-

pean colleagues. The views expressed by the speakers represent their personal opinions and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Journal, the Supporting Societies, or their respective Institutions.

Ironically this Symposium coincides with a propitious time in the history of the Society for Pediatric Research, its 50th anniversary, a time when great concern is being expressed from several quarters regarding future direction and funding of pediatric investigation. This issue contains the Presidential Address, "Pediatric Research: Challenges to be Met and Promises to Keep" together with the paper by Professor Court, "Context and Priorities for Pediatric Research in the Eighties." The first of the contributions from the Symposium, "Setting Priorities in Pediatric Research: Who is Responsible?" by Dr. Vijaya L. Melnick, also appears in this month's issue. The remaining papers from the Symposium will follow in subsequent issues.

We invite and welcome a continuing response and dialogue from the readership.

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