Editorial

Looking Back and Looking Forward

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Aviation Psychology and Applied Human Factors has been around for 8 years now and I have read all the issues and collected the printed copies neatly in my bookcase. This issue is a special one for me. I felt very honoured to take over from Ioana Koglbauer the task of the Editor-in-Chief from October 2018 and, at the same time I have great respect as for the responsibility it entails. I am not a friend of many words and yet this is an opportunity to take a look back at what has already been achieved and to look forward where the journey should go from here.

I would like to thank Ioana Koglbauer very much for the work she has done over the last 4 years. Thanks to her tireless efforts, Ioana has been able to obtain widespread awareness and recognition for the journal in the aviation psychology community, to position the journal well in terms of topicality, and to firmly anchor it into the two supporting associations, the European Association for Aviation Psychology (EAAP) and the Australian Aviation Psychology Association (AAvPA). The number of submissions has significantly increased and its processing has been much professionalized by the introduction of the online submission system Editorial Manager (<http://www.editorialmanager.com/apahf>) by Hogrefe Publishing. This initially required a great deal of effort in terms of implementation and transition. Now that the system is up and running, it accelerates and simplifies the processing of articles and contributes to an increased transparency. Many thanks to Hogrefe Publishing and Juliane Munson, who greatly contributed to a smooth transition.

Due to the changes in the EAAP board there are also some changes with regard to the team of the journal's group of Associate Editors: Cristina Albuquerque and Hinnerk Eißfeldt both left the EAAP board and the team of Associate Editors. They have contributed so much to the development of the journal in terms of defining objectives and policies, and did a tremendous amount of work in the reviewing process. Many thanks to Cristina and Hinnerk. I am very happy to welcome Robert Bor and Mickaël Causse as new members in the team of Associate Editors. The team still includes André Droog, Ioana Koglbauer, Monica Martinussen, Michaela Schwarz, and Matthew Thomas.

A good journal convinces its readers by topicality, relevance, and the scientific quality of its papers. It convinces the authors through a fair, constructive and efficient reviewing and editing process. In terms of topicality, the aim of *APAHF* has always been multidisciplinary: It addresses findings from human factors and psychological research, and how the knowledge from psychology can be successfully applied to the resolution of human factors issues experienced in aviation. It addresses relevant technological developments and how psychological and human factors knowledge can contribute to technological innovation and to finding adequate solutions for operational issues. It also addresses real-life operational experience and lessons learned. And there has been growing concern about clinical and mental health issues in aviation which consequently have attained higher relevance for the journal.

The process of peer review is carried out by many experts within and outside the two associations, EAAP and AAvPA and – what I consider very important – the peer review takes place with a positive and constructive attitude aimed at improving the contributions in the process. It has been journal policy from the start to encourage young researchers and first-time authors to submit their contributions. I would like to remind that whenever necessary, we will offer authors the assistance of a mentor to help increase the readability and the overall quality of their manuscript. This mentoring will, like the peer-review process itself, be done on a double-blind basis without exchange of personal details (Jorna, 2011).

You can contribute by submitting your papers, or sending announcements or news items. Book reviews and conference reports are very welcome contributions. Together with the Associate Editors and the EAAP board we developed a strategy to attract review papers as a new article category in the journal. And in addition, we are looking for more suggestions for review topics and submissions of review papers.

Editing a journal is a team effort. The journal has received an incredible amount of encouragement and active support from the boards of EAAP and of AAvPA. The publisher's team at Hogrefe Publishing is so very professional and enthusiastic. Having a great team of Associate

Editors gives me the confidence to be able to continue the development of the journal. And of course, the most important members of the *APAHF* team are the readers and the authors: I would like invite and encourage the members of AAvPA and of EAAP and all readers and authors to help to make this journal better, more relevant, more enjoyable to read.

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Reference

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History

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