Celebrating 30 Years of the Journal of Pediatric Nursing: Nursing Care of Children and Families: Editorial Reflections

THE FIRST ISSUE of the Journal of Pediatric Nursing: Nursing Care of Children and Families (JPN) was published in February, 1986. In that beginning edition the editorial entitled, “It’s About Time,” introduced the readership to the JPN Vision and Mission. The vision of JPN as declared in this initial issue remains unchanged to this day:

This journal is designed to serve as a forum in which topics of clinical relevance and scientific interest are disseminated to the clinician, scholar, and researcher in the field of nursing care of children and families. Throughout the country, pediatric nurses have made and continue to make significant advances in their specialized field of practice and/or research. This journal intends to be in the forefront, provide the reader with information that reflects the state of the science as well as the state of the art in the nursing care of children and families (p. 1, Betz & Poster, 1986).

Since those early days, JPN has continually evolved, keeping pace with the challenges and changes of the past 30 years. There have been advances in the treatment and care of infants, children, adolescents, emerging adults and their families. Add to this the technological progress and breakthroughs that have dramatically altered pediatric and child health care. These care transformations have resulted in widespread improvements in the health status of children from birth to emerging adulthood in this country and worldwide. Likewise, the practice and science of pediatric and child health nursing will continue to engendering new approaches across the spectrum of care whether hospital-based or in the community and home. JPN will continue to publish content that informs pediatric and child health professionals in their scope of practice to provide evidence-based care and to test the effectiveness of innovative and emerging models of nursing care.

Publishing JPN is a team effort in the truest meaning of the word. There are many people to acknowledge who have contributed importantly to the growth of this journal over the past three decades. Recognition of our colleagues begins with a number of individuals who provided instrumental contributions to JPN.

- Brian Hinshaw who served as our publishing advocate and made this publishing enterprise possible when this journal was originally published by Grune and Stratton.
- Elizabeth C. Poster, PhD, RN, FAAN, who served as the founding JPN co-editor. She was an integral, inspiring and important influence in the development of the journal concept and ultimate launch of JPN.
- Marie L. Lobo, PhD, RN, FAAN, who inspired us to modify the title of the journal from Journal of Pediatric Nursing to Journal of Pediatric Nursing: Nursing Care of Children and Families.
- Bonnie Holaday, DNS, RN, FAAN, who for many years served as the editor of the International Pediatric Nursing Column. In that role, Dr. Holaday solicited articles from international authors at a time wherein the access to the global pediatric and child health nursing community was yet to be realized with Internet. During those early years, communication was laborious, slow and difficult; yet, Dr. Holaday managed to solicit submissions from international authors that enabled readers to better
understand the health care needs of children from other parts of the world and the nursing care practices of our international colleagues.

- Carolyn Aradine, RN, PhD, Bonnie Holaday, DNS, RN, FAAN and Marie Lobo, PhD, RN, FAAN who have served as long-standing and valued JPN editorial board members since the very first issue.

Over these many years, JPN has benefitted from the expertise and scholarship of extraordinary pediatric and child health nursing professionals who served as editorial board members and associate editors. The members of the JPN Editorial Board have performed invaluable roles in guiding the future direction of the journal, advising members of the editorial team, reviewing manuscript submissions, and assisting with expanding the number of manuscript reviewers.

During the past three decades, we have been fortunate to have associate editors who provided wise counsel and editorial collaboration and support. Each one of these editors worked tirelessly in managing submitted manuscripts and corresponding with authors and reviewers to ensure that the manuscripts accepted were meaningful contributions to the pediatric and child health nursing body of literature. Many thanks to these associate editors listed below together with their terms of office.

- Elizabeth C. Poster, PhD, RN, FAAN (1986–1987)
- Maura MacPhee, PhD, RN (2002–2009)
- Angela Green, PhD, APN, NNP-BC, FAAN (2010–2014)
- Myra Huth, PhD, RN, FAAN (2014–2015)

We have been fortunate to have an array of column editors who contributed to the journal. All of these column editors added value by enriching the clinical and research content available for the readership in each JPN issue. All of these column editors were, or are, valued and respected members of the JPN editorial team during their terms of service.

- Dorie Biester, RN, MS, FAAN (Child Health Policy)
- Rita Bouchard, RN, MN (Abstracts From the Current Literature)
- Elizabeth A. Chaney, RN, MSN, JD (Legal Aspects)
- Becky J. Christian, PhD, RN (Research Commentary)
- Pamela K. DeWitt, RN, MN (Abstracts From the Current Literature)
- Stephanie Ferguson, PhD, RN, FAAN (Child Health Policy)
- Bernadette Frager, RN, MN (Child Health Policy)
- Julie Giesy, RN, BSN (Clinical Innovations)
- Karen Goldschmidt, MSN, RNC (Technology)
- Mary D. Gordon, PhD, RN, CNS-BC (Clinical Practice)
- Bonnie Holaday, RN, DNS (International Pediatric Nursing)
- Marilyn B. Hartsell, RN, MS (Equipment)
- Gail M. Kieckhefer, RN, PhD (Book and Media Review)
- Lynda La Montagne, RN, DNSc (Conference Call)
- Carol H. Luckey, MSN (R), RN (CNS Network)
- Mary R. Lynn, RN, PhD (Research)
- Maura MacPhee, PhD, RN (Evidence-Based Practice in Action)
- Deborah L. McBride, MSN, RN, CPN, CPON, CCRN (Hot Topics)
- Ellen McFadden, RN, PhD (Equipment)
- Rita Black Monsen, DSN, MPH, RN (The Child in the Community: Nursing Makes a Difference)
- Eileen O’Brien, PhD, RN (Equipment)
- Reverend William W. Rankin, PhD (More Deeply Human, Soul Food)
- Joanne Barbara Scungio, RN, PhD, (Book and Media Review)
- Deborah Shelton, PhD, RN, CAN (Child Health Policy)
- Kathryn Smith, DrPh, RN (Child Health Policy)
- Barbara Velsor-Friedrich, RN, PhD, FAAN (Child Health Policy)
- Inese Verzemnieks, RN, MSN (Abstracts From the Current Literature)
- Katherine W. Vestal, RN, PhD (Administration)
- Myrtle Williams, RN, MS (Nursing Education)

Lastly, we are deeply appreciative of the acknowledgement of our continued commitment to support excellence in pediatric and child health nursing practice and research that we have experienced since 1986. We value deeply our partnership with both the Society of Pediatric Nurses and the Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society. In 2002, JPN was adopted as the official journal of Society of Pediatric Nurses; later in 2006, JPN was adopted as the official journal of the Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society.

Cecily L. Betz, PhD, RN, FAAN
Editor-in-Chief
E-mail address: cbetz@chla.usc.edu

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