

ANNOUNCEMENT

CHANGE OF EDITOR

With the publication of this issue I will be retiring as Editor of the *JP*. My reason is the recent worsening of a chronic health condition. It's nothing "serious," as this term is ordinarily used in a medical context, but the annoying symptoms are exacerbated by stress, which makes even the routine stresses associated with editing and producing the journal quite onerous. Were I to try to "tough it out," I fear my job performance would suffer to an extent that would become noticeable to others. I will stay on as an Associate Editor to provide some continuity, but my role will be minimal.

When I checked my CV recently, I discovered that I have been Editor of the *JP* for almost exactly a quarter century. Although like any job it's had its ups and downs, I've found it to be an immensely rewarding ride. I am also aware that I am one of very few people who have been able to be employed full-time in parapsychology for most of their careers, and I am immensely grateful to my employers and to the parapsychological community in general for affording me that opportunity. I leave the editorship with no regrets, but it is time for new and younger blood.

My decision to retire was made easier by the fact that I was able to recruit an excellent replacement. The new Editor will be Dr. Etzel Cardeña, who holds the Thorsen Chair in Psychology at Lund University in Sweden. I got to see Etzel's editorial skills up close when I served as a co-editor of the recently published book *Parapsychology: A Handbook for the 21st Century*, of which he was the de facto editor-in-chief. I liked what I saw. His immersion in this project contributed to his broad knowledge of research and theory in the many subareas of parapsychology. This knowledge will help him make wise decisions about what should and should not be published in the *JP*, and to select qualified referees to assist in that process. Etzel also had the experience of being co-editor of the book *Varieties of Anomalous Experience: Examining the Scientific Evidence*, published by the American Psychological Association, and he has an academic specialization in hypnosis as well as in parapsychology. I expect that his interest and expertise in states of consciousness will influence how he approaches his future editorship, but I will leave it to him to inform us about his plans for the *JP* in the Spring 2017 issue. Finally, and most importantly, I have no doubt that Etzel will maintain the scientific standards for the *JP* that I have tried to uphold during my tenure.

John Palmer