

Editorial

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The new technological breakthroughs and upsurge of scientific information are likely to produce communication revolution. Over the past few years, there has been an explosion in science journalism. A number of new science journals have come into existence. Several others are expected to enter the arena of publishing field.

Research journals are the media engaged in bringing to light the results of research done in various institutions/laboratories of the world. A journal, if it is to be recognised, should report original research in a wide range of specialities. The quality of a journal depends on how frequently the average article in journal is cited. This calls for publication of quality articles.

The inflation of paper production has become a fact of academic life during the past two decades. This is especially the case in biology and medicine, where researchers some time list hundreds of papers. Researchers publishing four short papers rather than a long one is not uncommon these days. This fragmentation of data results in a sheer growth of literature.

The need for a research journal in the field of mental health and neuro sciences has been felt since long by the scientific community with high expectations from institutions like NIMHANS. Not that we did not have any journal all these years. The All India Institute of Mental Health (AIIMH) established in 1954 in Bangalore for post-graduate training of psychiatrists, psychologists, psychiatric nurses and social workers started a biannual journal called Pratibha in January, 1958. The journal was popular among psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and many others in the field of mental health.

In 1960, various considerations prompted the authorities to change the name of the publication to that of Transactions and publish once in a year or more often when necessary exclusively devoted to report the research activities of the staff and students of the Institute. From then on, "Transactions of All Institute of Mental Health" was published once in a year. This publication carried research papers, case reports, clinical and research notes, book reviews and abstracts till 1971.

In 1974, the AIIMH and the State Mental Hospital were integrated and the present National Institute of Mental Health & Neuro Sciences, Bangalore (NIMHANS) was emerged. Undertaking publication of journals, research monographs leaflets and text books, collecting, organising and publishing knowledge about mental health and neuro sciences are among the objectives of NIMHANS. In furtherance of these objectives, efforts are being made to publish literature on mental health and neuro sciences in various forms of publications. NIMHANS Journal is one such publication, which will bring to light the research communications of the Institute faculty and the research work elsewhere, the first issue of which is in your hands.

Proceedings of national seminars/symposia/workshops will also be included in the journal, as and when held. In this issue, as a matter of fact, few papers presented at the National Symposium on Yoga, Brain and Consciousness held on 1st and 2nd January 1982 at NIMHANS, Bangalore, are included.

In addition to research papers, interesting case reports and short research briefings are also included. We hope to include more and more research communication in ensuing issues.