

With this issue, *Health and History* begins its second volume and enters its third year. We hope you like the change of colour, which will cover all four issues of Volume 2. We think the first issue of Volume 2 gives cause for some optimism regarding the future of the bulletin/journal.

This issue includes a record number of strong articles on the history of medicine in twentieth-century Australia, and some fascinating research notes. And there is more to come. Linda Bryder and Derek Dow are editing a special issue on Maori health (Volume 2, Number 2), and we already have a large stock of excellent general articles for the first issue of next year. Moreover, our new managing editor, Jane Yule, has begun to discipline the journal's procrastinating editors. Gradually, we are sorting out the old problems of editorial inefficiency and production variability.

We are grateful that the history of medicine community in Australia, and abroad, responded to our first, faltering steps with so much patience and generosity. While we do not expect any Olympic medals just yet, at least we are not falling over.

Indeed, we are now facing some of the problems that arise from success. We are especially concerned that a backlog of articles means that the period between acceptance and publication is approaching eight to twelve months. It may well be that the Society will have to consider three issues each year for Volume 3.

I should also signal to readers that I will be resigning as co-editor at the end of this year. In February 2001, I take up a position in the History of the Health Sciences in the Department of Anthropology, History and Social Medicine at UCSF. I hope to maintain contact with *Health and History* and join the editorial advisory board. Dr Janet McCalman will continue to serve as editor. The Medical History Unit in the Centre for the Study of Health and Society at the University of Melbourne will also continue its

active program of teaching and research. Negotiations are currently underway for my replacement in Medical History—someone who, we hope, may also assist with the editing of *Health and History*.

I would like to thank the Australian Society of the History of Medicine, the Faculty of Arts at the University of Melbourne, contributors to this journal, and its readers, for their support over the past three years. In particular, I want to express my gratitude to Janet, Jane, and Renae, for they are the ones chiefly responsible for the current vigour of *Health and History*.

Warwick Anderson
University of Melbourne