

# Announcement

## Notes from the Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Barbara Biesecker has served as the Social and Behavioral Research Section Editor since 2005 and has been instrumental in developing this section. After approximately 5 years of working on this section with great dedication and commitment, Dr. Biesecker has decided to step down from this position due to other work commitments. I would like to thank her for all her efforts in maintaining a standard of excellence for this section, and wish her much success in her future endeavors.

I am delighted to announce that Dr. Aad Tibben has agreed to be the new Section Editor. Dr. Tibben is a Professor of Psychology of Clinical Genetics at Leiden University Medical Centre, Netherlands and has extensive expertise in this field. He will bring new insights to this section. We warmly welcome him to the journal.

The issues arising in Social and Behavioral Research in genetics are clearly important and there is a growing community involved in different approaches to assess the social and psychological impact of technologies on patients with genetic disorders and on geneticists providing service to the patients.

This section provides a forum for different viewpoints from colleagues in medical and other professions who are both interested to provide support for families with genetic illness. We welcome your submissions to this section.

Best wishes,  
Michael R. Hayden

## Notes from the Section Editor

It is an honour and privilege to contribute to Clinical Genetics as section editor of the Social and Behavioral Research in Clinical Genetics. Under the inspiring guidance of Dr. Barbara Biesecker, this section has evolved into an international forum that has covered a broad range of genetics related issues such as quality of mental services and genetic counseling, risk perception, predictors of psychopathology, impact of genetic counseling and testing, family system issues, and participation in genetic research. The section gives space for both sound qualitative and quantitative research.

Clinical genetics is a fast developing field in healthcare with far-reaching psychosocial and behavioral impact at many levels in individuals, families, groups and communities. This challenges researchers to quickly adjust and anticipate to new trends and insights into the fundamental and clinical research. Although we have learned many lessons from the past, there remains a strong need to further improve genetic services and to establish new services as a response to new genetic technologies and the according implementations into healthcare. Moreover, given the extensive globalization of genetics we need to develop and establish genetics services that are accessible to the entire world community.

We invite researchers in the field of social and behavioral issues of genetics to submit their work to Clinical Genetics. Articles for this section will be solicited by the editors and submitted for peer review. If a researcher is interested in having an article appear in this section, they are encouraged to contact the section editor at [a.tibben@lumc.nl](mailto:a.tibben@lumc.nl).

Aad Tibben