



EDITORIAL

At the last annual general meeting of the Editorial Board, Moshe Lang was elected chairperson on the Board. At the request of the committee members, he has prepared the following report of that meeting.

Report

The beginnings of this journal remind me of a story.

A man was down and out. He went to Baron Rothchild and said, "I want to marry your daughter".

Rothchild replied "Who are you?"

The man responded "I am going to be the next President of the U.S."

He then went to the President of the U.S.A. and said, "I want to be your running mate".

The President, astonished, asked, "Who are you to be my running mate?"

The man replied, "Who am I? I'm going to marry Rothchild's daughter."

In the early days of the journal a few of us worked very hard, asking for subscriptions for non-existent articles and soliciting articles for a non-existent readership. Such issues as representation on the Editorial Board, balance between various articles and other written material and precise criteria for acceptance of papers were neither discussed nor even anticipated. Policies developed ad hoc as the journal grew. Now at the beginning of the fifth year of publication, these issues need to be properly considered and publicly aired.

The last meeting of the Editorial Board took an important step in this direction. It was agreed that the function of the Editorial Board is to formulate the overall policy of the journal, appoint the Editor and ensure she/he carries out the tasks associated with this position. The Board is to support the Editor and her/his appointees in carrying out their work. It was decided to expand the Board so that it would reflect the widest possible representation of Australian family therapy. Therefore, in addition to its current members, it was decided that each State Association should appoint one person to the board for a three year period. Each state is now invited to consider and appoint such a person. The suggested criteria for selection are:

1. She/he must be able to attend the yearly Editorial Board meeting to be held the day before the annual conference begins, having studied the agenda prior to this meeting.

2. She/he must be capable of representing the State Association and the journal readers.

3. She/he must be capable of making an independent contribution to the journal, such as providing new ideas and helping to formulate policy.

4. In considering a suitable person, thought should be given to the overall balance of the Editorial Board, i.e. between genders, professions, schools of family therapy, clinical, theoretical and research interests.

When appropriate the chairperson may nominate additional members to the Board from groups of family therapists who may be under-represented. Also she/he may nominate persons to the Board who are capable of making a special contribution.

It has been suggested that the journal be renamed *The Australian and New Zealand Journal of Family Therapy*. Readers from New Zealand and Australia are invited to consider this suggestion and to respond.

Michael White's dedication to the journal and excellent work was greatly appreciated and he has been appointed Editor for a further three year period. The editor has full responsibility for the running of the journal on a year to year basis and reports to the Editorial Board at the annual general meeting. She/he has full authority to appoint Associate Editors, Co-ordinators of Departments and the Board of Assessors.

It was agreed that the number of active workers responsible for the production of the journal should be increased. One useful way to do this is to appoint Co-ordinators of Departments. The new departments reflect the feedback from readers.

1. Around Australia and New Zealand is to be renamed *Network News* to include reports of activities from the representatives in each state, conference reports (local and overseas), interviews with people of interest and description of training programmes.

2. An Education-Update department will be introduced and the Co-ordinator of this department invites readers to submit articles for consideration. Guidelines for the preparation and submission of

articles to this department are available from the Co-ordinator.

3. A Circulation department has been established and the Co-ordinator of this department is responsible for promotion and circulation of the journal both locally and overseas. Some identified targets are libraries, relevant university departments, international readers and specialised book stores. It was suggested that the journal should be available to clients of family therapy centres.

I would like to welcome the new Co-ordinators of these departments,

David Epston — Story Corner

Geraldine Slattery — Video and Audio Review

Catherine Sanders — Network News

Wayne McLeod — Circulation

Ann Sved-Williams — Education-Update

The full co-operation of the Editorial Board will be extended to them.

Moshe Lang

THE AUSTRALIAN FAMILY THERAPY CONFERENCE for 1984

will be held at the Australian National University in Canberra from 5th to 8th September. Further information can be obtained from:

ACTS,
G.P.O. Box 1929
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2601
Telephone (062) 49 8015