

# Editorial

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Karen H. Rothenberg, Michael Vasko

**C**ommitment, vision, and expertise are three traits that help define a professional association. Without these, an association cannot succeed and mature. But, more significantly, it is the individual serving the association who establishes and shapes its image, standing, and contribution to the community.

Steven H. Miles, M.D., is one such individual. In 1993, while on an executive committee of the American Society of Law, Medicine & Ethics's board of directors, he served on a task force overseeing the Society's publications. True to his character, Dr. Miles not only acutely assessed the journals' needs, but he also set about implementing his prescription: in 1994, with Karen H. Rothenberg, J.D., M.P.A., he accepted the nomination to be co-editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*. He has served faithfully in this capacity ever since.

With publication of the Summer 1996 issue of the *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*, Dr. Miles will step down as co-editor-in-chief. Fortunately, he will continue on the journal's board of editors with particular responsibility for medical issues. Professor Rothenberg has agreed to continue as co-editor-in-chief.

To Dr. Miles, it is with profound gratitude that we, his colleagues and the entire board of editors, express our

thanks. We believe that with Dr. Miles's wisdom and guidance the journal has continued to raise its editorial standards—through rigorous peer review—and has forged new contacts both in terms of manuscript reviewers and contributors. Most notable under his guidance, the journal produced its Fall 1995 issue on managed care, which forged new ethical analysis on this emerging issue. More recently, he provided much of the impetus to address the clinical implications of the Second and Ninth Circuit opinions on assisted suicide, which will be addressed as part of the Fall 1996 issue of the journal. To you, Steve, as you would say and email to others: peace.

In the spirit of Dr. Miles's commitment, vision, and expertise, the journal is very pleased to announce that Dr. Bernard Lo, M.D., has agreed to succeed Dr. Miles as co-editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Law, Medicine & Ethics*. Dr. Lo, who also serves on the board of directors of ASLME, will bring a professional acumen of the highest order. Dr. Lo is professor of medicine and director of the Program in Medical Ethics at the University of California/San Francisco, and he was recently named to the National Bioethics Advisory Commission. The journal enthusiastically welcomes him as co-editor-in-chief, and looks forward to a strong working relationship.

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