

Arrivals and Departures

The life of any organization is marked by change and growth, if it is to remain healthy, and the American Society of Law & Medicine is no exception. The Society has experienced several staff changes during the past year. The managing editor of *Law, Medicine & Health Care*, Betty Barrer, left the journal over the summer.

Betty was the first managing editor of *LMHC*, and was directly involved in moving it into the ranks of major peer-reviewed journals in the health law field. Betty was a capable and thorough editor, skilled at maintaining the delicate balance in the often difficult relationship between editor and author.

The second loss was the departure of Ed Doudera, the executive director of the Society and executive editor of *LMHC*. Ed presided over the Society's growth to over 7,000 members and subscribers; he developed Society

projects such as the acclaimed book series published by the Health Administration Press of the University of Michigan; he planned and ran most of the varied conferences that gave the Society its status as one of the largest national sponsors of such programs. As executive editor of the Society's journals, Ed frequently contributed articles and columns, as well as working closely with the editorial staff.

We at *Law, Medicine & Health Care* are sorry to see Ed and Betty depart. We have worked closely with both of them, and can testify to their contributions to *LMHC*. Their efforts are appreciated.

Meanwhile, we welcome a new managing editor to *LMHC*. Joyce Coleman has come to us from a position as staff editor of the *Boston Business Journal*, after working in administrative, editorial, and production roles with *Boston Magazine*, the University of Texas Press, and Stanford University Press. She has already dis-

played tremendous energy in improving the editorial process at *LMHC*.

Over the next year you will notice changes in *LMHC*—in format, typeface, and design, and in article variety. The staff and editorial board plan to improve the journal's appearance and readability, and to expand coverage of the health law field. The readership survey we recently sent out will help us assess how we've been doing and to identify topics of interest; we very much appreciate your filling out and returning this survey. We are now about four months behind in our publication schedule, and with Joyce's addition to the staff, we anticipate eliminating any publication delay by the end of 1986. If you have comments or criticisms of any changes that are made, or further suggestions for making *LMHC* more interesting and valuable to you, please write to either Joyce Coleman or me. We appreciate your help—you are the consumers of our product.

Upcoming in Law, Medicine & Health Care

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LIVING WILLS: PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL PERSPECTIVES

'A man suddenly appeared behind me. He said he had heard I was having problems with the doctors attending Miss Hewitt. Perhaps he could help, he was the "patient's representative." "Perhaps we can make a deal," he said.'

—"Death at a New York Hospital," Engelbert L. Schucking, Ph.D.

An agonizing personal account of a terminal patient, her authorized agent, and the doctors who resuscitated her against her expressed desire.

With commentaries by a panel of noted experts including: George J. Annas, Margaret A. Somerville, Anne Alexis Coté, Jane Greenlaw, Ronald Cranford, and Barry Furrow.

**CIVIL COMMITMENT:
THE IMPACT OF INNOVATION**

'Tinkering with substantive standards for civil commitment is an interesting exercise in symbolism. But as a vehicle for improving mental health care it may be a cruel hoax.'

—"Innovative Statutory Approaches to Civil Commitment," Daniel W. Shuman, J.D.

Should people be committed only when they're judged dangerous to themselves or others? Do studies of civil commitment isolate the relevant variables? How do broadened commitment laws affect length of stay in state mental hospitals? And, do all the laws and policies make any difference when it's 2 a.m. in the emergency room?

Articles by Daniel W. Shuman; Paul S. Appelbaum; Glenn L. Pierce, William Fisher, and Mary Durham; and Michael J. Churgin.