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Editors' Note
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Editors’ Note

Introducing Incoming Co-Editor

I (RFP) have edited The International Journal for the Psychology of Religion (IJPR) for 17 years. I have received wonderful help from associate editors Jozef Corveleyn, Crystal Park, and Vassilis Saroglou, and from Book Review Editor David Wulff. Also, this editorial team has received the amazing help of a vast team of reviewers who have given their efforts voluntarily, out of pure goodness and care for the journal and the field, to help us make good and accurate decisions about every manuscript submitted. I am deeply grateful to the associate editors and reviewers for all they do. What they do is essential, not optional, for an editor to do a good job. My appreciation goes to every one of you.

Now I have the pleasure of introducing Vassilis Saroglou as IJPR’s first Co-Editor. This will take place officially January 1, 2015. He has been a superior associate editor. When my workload increased to a degree that I knew that a co-editor was necessary, I asked several journal advisors for recommendations for who they thought would be the best person to fill the slot. Without exception and independent of each other, they directed me to Vassilis Saroglou. I asked him; he said yes. Thus in January he will join me and assume some of the editorial load; we will have collaborative editorial authority. I am grateful to my advisors for pointing my attention to him and to him for becoming my companion in editing IJPR. We will do good service for IJPR.

Journal Highlights

Technical development. We will adopt a system of electronic submission of manuscripts and management of the review process. This will be ready by January 2015, if not earlier. Authors will be able to electronically submit manuscripts through a link at the journal’s webpage. This will help editors, reviewers, and authors in many ways, including hopefully keeping a good time frame for making editorial decisions. It will also enable us to keep electronic track of people who have served as reviewers throughout the year so that the journal can acknowledge and thank them by publishing their names in the last issue of each year.
Scientific standards. Recently, concern has been expressed in the social sciences, including psychology, about the quality of published research. This has included fruitful discussions on how to set and keep high standards for the conduct and reporting of research. In contributing to this effort, IJPR recommends that authors read “Improving the Dependability of Research in Personality and Social Psychology” (http://www.spsp.org/resource/resmgr/docs/practicespsypress.pdf) and APA’s Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct Standard 8 (http://www.apa.org/ethics/code/index.aspx?item=11) before submitting manuscripts to IJPR. (Note regarding Recommendation 4 in p. 8 of the first pdf document: There is no need to submit an appendix, but IJPR requests that authors retain exact records of the verbatim wording—translated if necessary—of all independent and dependent variable instructions, manipulations, and measures, so that if the manuscript is published this material can be made available to others who might request it.) Moreover, IJPR authors of submitted manuscripts should have their data available throughout the editorial review process and for at least five years after the date of publication.

IJPR progress. We wish to share recent developments about the journal’s progress and the vision for its future. IJPR has developed in many excellent ways. Its demand has increased markedly, the nature of the institutions from which authors come has become more selective, the journal’s rejection rate has been 80% for a number of years, and the number of printed pages has had to be increased no less than three times. Pressure on the system continues—a good problem for a journal to have. IJPR is looking ahead to another page increase in the near years, sustains a 5-year impact factor of 1.649 that makes people want to publish in it, continues to emphasize its special niche of international publication, and continues to expand its global reach. IJPR’s important connection with the International Association for the Psychology of Religion is excellent, and from its beginning has been a good friend of American Psychological Association Division 36. IJPR has been placed in the top category of journals in relevant scholarly areas. These developments document its continuing quality and status. We invite you to consider IJPR as an intellectual home regardless of your field of expertise, psychological specialty, or theoretical perspective.

Raymond F. Paloutzian and Vassilis Saroglou
Editors