

# Letter from the editor

It is the end of another year, and with it the publication of the final edition of 2009. This has been a momentous year. The Journal was selected for inclusion in the MEDLINE database as well as a number of the Thomson Reuters databases, such as the Science Citation Index Expanded (also known as SciSearch). Such selection speaks of the acknowledgement that the Journal has received, and now places African psychiatry very squarely on the international stage. In addition the development of our new website- powered by E2 solutions - has ensured open access to the scientific content for all who register (at no cost). Since inclusion in the MEDLINE database the Journal content has been accessed several hundred times monthly- a sign of growing interest. A major challenge remains the time from acceptance of a paper to publication. The intention is to pursue implementation of the digital object identifier (doi) system- this will enable automatic electronic publication upon acceptance, with ability to cite such content immediately in advance of hardcopy publication which will follow. Support

from industry has continued, and remains a critical component of our success and ongoing existence- and this with the utmost respect for editorial independence. Many thanks to the companies who have supported us during 2009. The new year will see 5 editions due to the growth of submissions, hence there will be a slight change in publishing schedule with February/March, April/May, June/July, August/September and October/November editions- each one with a minimum of 7 original articles. The unsung heroes of the Journal are those who give unselfishly of their time to assist with the peer review process- thank you ! Finally we say goodbye and thanks to Brian Robertson - following his resignation from the editorial board - and a warm welcome to Jonathan Burns. It remains for me to wish all of you, the readers, a wonderful festive season and new year. We look forward to having you with us in 2010.

**Christopher Paul Szabo**

Editor-in-Chief